





## EUROPEAN NEWS

## David Marsh in Bonn on a coming battle over opening up Europe's electricity supply frontiers

### French energy exports spark W German concern

FRANCE AND West Germany are mobilising their forces for a battle over exports of cheap French nuclear-generated electricity. It could prove a test case of the European Community's plans to forge a genuine internal market by 1992.

France is building up heavy electricity generating over-capacity as a result of its large programme of nuclear power station construction. It hopes to sell an increasing amount of the surplus to its western neighbour in coming years.

West German opposition comes from different angles. The coal industry, already facing the need to cut about 30,000 jobs in the next few years because of falling demand, fears that cheap French imports would undermine further the heavily subsidised system assuring preference for costly German coal in domestic power generation.

Led by the giant Rheinisch-Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk (RWE), some of the big decentralised German electricity utilities, which also have substantial over-capacity, are worried that French imports would drive a wedge into the heavily regulated German grid system.

The powerful anti-nuclear German political lobby is also bracing itself for a fight. With controversy still simmering over alleged security flaws at France's new reactor complex at Cattenom close to the German border, any plans for

large-scale French imports of nuclear power would cause an outcry from the opposition Social Democratic Party. The SPD at the beginning of this month reaffirmed its call for a 10-year Ausstieg (exit) from nuclear energy with a decision to ban all nuclear power stations in the most heavily industrialised state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Mr Rudolf von Bennigsen-Foerster, chairman of the Veba energy conglomerate, with important stakes both in electricity generation and coal-mining, has accused the French of planning to "dump" subsidised electricity.

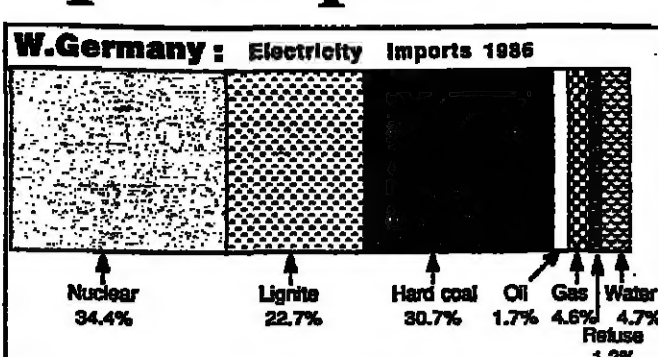
The charge is energetically denied by Electricité de France (EdF), the French state utility, which says it receives no aid from the Government. West German electricity prices are generally reckoned to be 30 to 40 per cent dearer than in France, with some surveys putting the difference at more than 50 per cent. But this largely reflects lower French investment and regulatory costs, says EdF, a result of France's standardised nuclear programme.

Mr Michel Noir, the French Foreign Trade Minister, has waded into the fray.

Opening up the electricity supply borders was a logical part of the European Commission's internal market plans, he said. He said the subject would be on the agenda at the next six-month Franco-German summit next month. The meeting is being held at a symbolic spot-Karlsruhe on the Rhine in Baden-Wuerttemberg. This is the German state which up to now has proved most receptive to the idea of buying cheap French current. The bulk of France's sales of 2bn kWh of electricity last year to West Germany (out of total EdF exports of 25.4bn kWh) went to the Badenwerk utility in Baden-Wuerttemberg, which is run by the conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

Support for French electricity purchases comes from German industrialists worried about the long-term impact on competitiveness of higher West German energy prices.

Mr Ronaldo Schmitz, the board member responsible for finance at the chemicals giant BASF, said he could secure new



long-term contracts with EdF at a price of about 7 to 10 pfennigs per kWh. This compares with a theoretical price of 15 to 20 pfennigs per kWh for new German contracts, which is, however, well above the price BASF pays for its present supplies under previously agreed long-term contracts.

BASF's monopoly supplier is RWE, which was the only German utility big enough to meet BASF's needs after World War Two, and owns all the distribution lines to the chemical company's Ludwigshafen plant.

RWE has traditionally been one of the cheaper West German utilities but has lost its competitive edge in recent years because of its small amount of nuclear capacity.

Mr Schmitz has had discussions in the past about over buying electricity from EdF. But

these have not been continued because BASF is unable in practice to build its own supply lines to the French border to connect up with the EdF grid.

Mr Schmitz said: "Importing current from France is an idea of last resort. The price problem would be eased if German utilities agreed to buy a quota of cheaper electricity from France, and then sell it on, at a profit for themselves, to their industrial customers."

Bayer, one of the other big West German chemical companies, and like BASF one of the largest electricity consumers in the Federal Republic, is in a similar position. Mr Axel Lippert, a Bayer executive responsible for energy, called for the EC to "function properly" by allowing cross-border electricity sales.

Nuclear-generated electricity provides an ideal way of meeting chemical companies' base load needs, Mr Lippert said, and countries like France or Belgium which have a high nuclear share are gaining a steady competitive advantage.

Mr Friedrich Gieske, RWE's finance director, defends the German utilities' monopoly position on the grounds that, under the 1935 Energy Industry Law, they are obliged to guarantee full security of supply to all customers within their distribution area.

If BASF were to sign an electricity supply contract with EdF, and there was a strike in

French power plants, the chemical company would rely on RWE to make good the supply shortfall, he said. RWE could not simply "march in" to French power stations to restore supplies, he noted.

RWE relies above all on lignite-fired power stations, with its nuclear share in electricity generation a relatively low 21 per cent. Nuclear plants last year provided 34 per cent of electricity generated by all West German utilities, against 31 per cent for hard coal and 23 per cent for lignite.

The utilities are pledged to buy 45m tonnes of coal a year up to 1995 from West German mines in a long-term coal support programme - the so-called *Jahresuntervertrag* or "Contract of the Century". These sales make up more than half of current coal production of 75m tonnes, which itself is about 12m more than total demand.

West German coal prices in D-Mark terms are now nearly three times world prices. Talks have opened in Bonn to try to keep the *Jahresuntervertrag* going and at the same time agree cuts in both coal production and output subsidies, which this year will total DM10bn.

However, even with the French clamouring for greater access to the German market, strict regulation of the Federal Republic's power supply system is likely to be eased only at a snail's pace.

## East bloc seeks to fight its way out of economic corner

A BOXER forced into a corner knows only one way to improve his position - he is condemned to go on the offensive.

Economic reforms currently being undertaken in socialist countries are their way of getting out of the corner. The direction of the changes is the same everywhere: freer markets, less central planning and management, and a reduction of bureaucracy.

Changes are taking place in Hungary, Poland, and particularly in the Soviet Union, but also elsewhere. Even Mr Todor Zhivkov, the 76-year-old Bulgarian leader, has announced his local version of perestroika (restructuring).

The problem is that reducing the number of ministries does not necessarily guarantee that the economy will become proportionately more efficient. Reform will, if it leads to the creation of a market logic for the functioning of the whole economy. This will have to be accepted by societies in which egalitarian tendencies are still strongly established.

Last week Poland launched a long-awaited debate on new solutions for its economy often called the "second stage" of economic reform. The Government is to be reorganised and half the ministries will be dissolved. A single Industry Ministry will be established instead of the several ministries and central departments now managing various industrial sectors. The powers of the Ministry of Foreign Trade are also expected to increase.

The most difficult task facing the new cabinet will be the introduction of an obligatory price rise which will result in a 5-8 per cent decrease in real personal incomes and the elimination of the budget deficit.

The most important question, however, is whether changes in economic mechanisms will take place, and how far-reaching they will be. A continuing debate on this subject has clearly shown that introducing more market mechanisms into the socialist economy will not be easy. Ideological conservatives and bureaucrats afraid of losing their position are attempting to halt and reverse the reform process.

On the other hand, the Government is under pressure from reformist groups and the younger generation of young people, including a new generation of economists, are deeply in favour of stronger ties between Poland and the outside world. They believe that the system is susceptible to major and demand changes which are more radical than people whose way of thinking has been shaped in previous decades are able to suggest.

However, one thing is clear. The changes already being implemented, as well as those proposed, must have the financial backing of Western democracies and especially the world of business. The aim of the reforms is to improve the efficiency of the economy, boost exports and links with world markets. They correspond to those being urged by the International Monetary Fund and Poland's Western creditors.

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It suggests that anyone with 21

1m worth of capital (22,000 could register a company and set up in business. It also proposed that it should be enough merely to notify the Minister of Foreign Trade of a company's intention to trade abroad, in place of the projected partial liberalisation in the foreign trade system.

State sector companies as well as co-operatives and private concerns must be subjected to equal treatment by the authorities. The report also suggests that allocation of capi-

**POLISH VIEWPOINT**  
By Piotr Aleksandrowicz and Włodzimierz Kiciński

tal throughout the economy should be achieved as early as next year through an independent stock exchange.

In contrast to the Government's view, the report sees the company as the key element in any new economic system independent of its size or whether it is owned by the state or privately. This also means that new companies as well as changes in ownership of existing ones should achieve the greater role for the market as well as competition in the economy.

Both the report and the government proposals aim at achieving convertibility for the zloty. The authorities, however, set no date for this, while the report calls for a free market path to internal convertibility for Polish companies at least. An essential first step is the establishment of a free currency market, including a currency exchange in mid-1988. The weak exchange, however, does not appear in the government programme. The currency market would be accompanied by a dismantling role for central government in financial matters.

Lately, Poland has seen a wide-ranging debate on the subject of the role of foreign capital in the economy. As a result of the pressure this has generated the country's economic law is to be changed. Tax concessions are to be extended and rules for the transfer of profits will also be liberalised. It is expected that reinvestment of profits will also be favoured. The report goes further, urging a 25-year period of stable rules for such ventures. Poland should create more favourable conditions for these companies than other Eastern European countries.

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## Crackdown on the press expected soon in Serbia

BY JUDY DEMPSEY IN BELGRADE

AN ATTEMPT at a major clampdown on the press in the Yugoslav republic of Serbia is expected over the coming weeks, following the resignation of the director of the Politika publishing house in Belgrade.

Mr Ivan Stojanovic resigned on Monday evening, after coming under increasing pressure from the Serbian party organisation led by Mr Slobodan Milosevic, a tough politician who is critical of the openness of the Serbian media.

During a heated discussion, Mr Stojanovic, who heads the publishing house which includes the weekly *Nin*, one of the flagships of Yugoslav journalism, said he rejected all accusations from his critics, but "he deviated from the goals and tasks of Politika."

The publishing house, founded 70 years ago, is directly answerable to the Socialist Alliance of Working People, a broad popular front organisation. Over the past few weeks, Mr Milosevic has made efforts to bring the often-outspoken Serbian media into line with his own policies, as well as silencing his critics.

One of Mr Milosevic's main policies is to adopt a much tougher approach towards Kosovo, the autonomous southern province constitutionally linked to Serbia. Kosovo, which is largely dominated by ethnic

Albanians, was the scene of fierce nationalist riots in 1981 from which it has never fully recovered.

The *Politika* daily newspaper in Belgrade has echoed Mr Milosevic's sentiments to such a degree that Mr Dragisa Pavlovic, the moderate president of the central committee of the Belgrade party organisation, recently implied that *Politika* was fostering Serbian nationalism.

Mr Pavlovic was duly expelled from the central committee last month, a decision which was instigated by Mr Milosevic himself. Meanwhile, Mr Ivan Stojanovic, the liberal president of Serbia, has effectively lost the battle for promoting a more liberal climate in the republic.

Published by the Financial Times Group, 15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 01-499 8100. Telex: 621001. Cable: FTN. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to FINANCIAL TIMES, 15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Second-class postage paid at New York, NY. POSTMASTER: Additional mailing offices. FINANCIAL TIMES, 15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Second-class postage paid at New York, NY. POSTMASTER: Additional mailing offices. FINANCIAL TIMES, 15, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Second-class postage paid at New York, NY. POSTMASTER: Additional mailing offices.



## EUROPEAN NEWS

# Serious setback for British case on hormone ban

BY TIM DICKSON IN LUXEMBOURG

THE PROSPECT of a new trade war between Europe and the US loomed closer yesterday when Britain's legal challenge against the EC's ban on the use of hormones in meat production received a serious setback.

The UK, supported by Denmark, took the Community to the European Court last year, after the controversial decision by its farm ministers in December 1985, to outlaw five hormones used in the fattening of beef cattle.

The complaint alleges both that the council ignored vital scientific evidence, and more importantly that the decision should have been taken unanimously, rather than by a "qualified" majority of member states.

Yesterday, however, Mr Carl Otto Lenz, the Advocate-General of the court proposed, in an eagerly awaited opinion, that the British application should be dismissed and that the hormone ban should thus be upheld.

Mr Lenz is not a judge but past precedent suggest that his views are likely to be followed in the final verdict expected before Christmas.

Yesterday's development is not only a major disappointment for the British Government which claims that vital EC decision making procedures are at stake. It will also be noted with alarm by the US Administration which claims that

the prohibition was politically motivated and without any scientific justification.

The ban will mean that \$130m of US meat exports per year mostly in the form of offal and produced with the help of hormones will not be allowed to enter the Community.

Britain's main argument in the case rests on the claim that the European Commission submitted the proposal under the wrong legal base thereby allowing the decision to be agreed by a qualified majority of Ministers. The UK says that this has widespread implications for the way in which key plant and animal health issues could be determined in Brussels in future.

Mr Lenz, however, said that the legal base which was used - the Article 43 of the Treaty of Rome, which covers the Common Agricultural Policy - was wide enough to include non-specific agricultural issues like the health of the consumer.

As for ignoring the scientific evidence of a committee set up by the European Commission, and which found that there was no danger to health from natural hormones, Mr Lenz said that there was no legal requirement for the Council to take this into account.

He pointed out that there had been a shift during the political negotiations, from the question of human health, to the broader issue of consumer issues generally.

## Austria seeks entry to EC's internal market

AUSTRIA wants full participation in the European Community's tariff-free internal market without formally joining the Community, Mr Alois Mock, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday. AP reports from Amsterdam.

Mr Mock, who is visiting the Netherlands, referred to his nation's permanent neutrality and said full membership could not become a reality for Austria.

Austria fears that its exports will be threatened by increasing trade barriers as the EC proceeds with its plan to abolish internal tariffs by 1992. But Austria's 1956 State Treaty bars the

nation from joining any political alliance.

Mr Mock, who met Mr Ruud Lubbers, the Dutch Prime Minister, and Mr Hans van den Broek, the Foreign Minister, during his two-day visit, said his government had launched a

three-pronged approach to forge closer links with the EC. This included closer co-operation between the EC and the European Free Trade Association,

voluntary adoption by Austria of relevant EC regulations to smooth its path into the EC trade network, and negotiations with every EC nation to improve bilateral trade.

## W German short-term interest rates rise

By Andrew Fisher in Frankfurt

WEST GERMAN short-term interest rates took a further upward turn yesterday in the wake of rises in the United States and mounting concern about the pace of West German money supply growth.

The Bundesbank accepted bids for its one-month securities repurchase agreements, a refinancing facility for banks, at 2.55 per cent against 2.75 per cent the previous week. This is the third rise from the level of 2.55 per cent obtaining in early July.

The latest rise did not come as a complete surprise to the market, in view of the former trend among money-market rates. But analysts said a much bigger increase would have to occur before the discount rate was lifted from its present 3 per cent.

Mr Karl Otto Fockel, president of the Bundesbank, indicated last week that the central bank was increasingly using minimum tender levels for the repurchase agreements as a way of controlling short-term rates and thus exerting influence on money supply. The minimum bid was thus lifted to 2.55 per cent from 2.50 per cent last week.

In September, central bank money stock rose at a rate of 7.3 per cent, seasonally adjusted, over the fourth quarter level of 1986. The target range is between 3 and 6 per cent.

Yesterday, Mr Claus Kessler, the Bundesbank director responsible for money market operations, cited the sharp rise in US money rates and the corresponding increase in West German banks' domestic rate expectations as main causes for the higher repurchase rate.

## Community cash aid for Greece and Italy

The European Commission said yesterday it was allocating special funds for four aid programmes in Greece and Italy.

Mr Rostropovich, the Foreign Minister, said his government had launched a three-pronged approach to forge closer links with the EC. This included closer co-operation between the EC and the European Free Trade Association, voluntary adoption by Austria of relevant EC regulations to smooth its path into the EC trade network, and negotiations with every EC nation to improve bilateral trade.

# Italy aims to reduce state aid for companies

BY JOHN WYLES IN ROME

PLANS FOR a drastic revision of the use of large sums of public money to bail out struggling private sector companies have been outlined by Mr Adolfo Battaglia, Italy's Industry Minister.

In a lengthy and bleak review to a parliamentary committee of one of the cornerstones of Italian industrial policy, Mr Battaglia described as "disappointing" the results of more than a decade of expensive intervention. A leading member of the Republican party, he said that industrial assistance intended for only special cases had become "generalised or broadened in application, with a notable effect on public finances."

While not seeking a withdrawal of all state aid for companies in crisis, Mr Battaglia said now

was the time "to put an end to a policy of rescue tied to exceptional events and to create an ordinary system of intervention in crisis situations with well defined aims, instruments and period of implementation."

In seeking this objective, Mr Battaglia can draw support from the growing consensus in Italy on the need to reduce government intervention in industry in all its forms. But his plans were also bound to run into resistance from the many politicians who have built their political bases on being able to channel public funds to industrial clients.

The minister said current policies were an overlapping response to the industrial crisis of the 1970s and to the need for

industrial modernisation and intervention. The politics of modernisation now had to prevail because European Community rules on industrial aid were becoming more restrictive as the 1992 deadline for a free internal market approached.

Mr Battaglia gave a detailed breakdown of spending under the four main industrial aid policies. The most expensive - law 675 dating back to 1977 - had committed 17,124bn (€3.3bn) to 216 interventions. Nonetheless, the minister suggested that the "numerous criticisms" of the complex procedures and administration of the law were well founded. Above all, government intervention under the legislation had failed to be selective, he said.

The so-called Prodi law of 1979 - named after Romano Prodi, then Minister of Industry and now president of IRI, the state holding company - had aided 280 companies employing 24,000 people. But it had resulted in the appointment of special commissioners to run failing companies whose main concern had been to protect employment and physical assets "without paying close attention to the validity of the initiative," said the minister.

The public holding company Gepi was created in 1971 to take a stake in troubled companies and help manage their recovery. Under EC pressure it was forced to cease activities in the centre and north of the country in 1982, and now held stakes in 201 companies with 35,000 employees.

Mr Battaglia said that Gepi's activities since 1980 had resulted in the hiring of 18,875 people, of whom no fewer than 11,000 were receiving assistance from the Government's special unemployment fund "without any alternative solution having been identified."

In an attempt to restructure Italy's civil electronics industry, the government of the day created Ristrutturazione Elettronica (Rele) in 1982. Since then 1,441bn had been committed in fresh capital and cheap loans to 30 companies, and once again, said Mr Battaglia, "the tendency had emerged to transform a temporary intervention into a welfare activity without a definite time limit."

## Rome rules out Kurdish kidnap deal

By John Wyles

THE POSSIBILITY of withdrawing the Italian naval mission from the Gulf in return for the release of three Italian engineers kidnapped by Iraqi Kurds was firmly ruled out yesterday by Mr Valerio Zanone, the Minister of Defence.

Spokesman for the pro-Iranian "Patriotic Union of Kurdistan," which claims that it is holding the men, have formally linked their release to withdrawal of the eight-vessel Italian task force in the Gulf.

However, a Kurdish representative interviewed by Italian television yesterday suggested that Italian humanitarian aid for the Kurdish struggle for independence from Baghdad and a halt to arms shipments to Iraq were the real terms for freeing the engineers.

Mr Zanone adamantly affirmed that only the restoration of secure and free navigation through the Gulf would trigger the withdrawal of the Italian navy. Any premature withdrawal would be "a bitter blow to peace efforts, to say nothing of the damage to our international credibility," he said.

The Italian Government, meanwhile, is coming under criticism from left-wing opponents for having kept the kidnappings a secret until they were revealed by the Kurds on Monday. One of the engineers was taken from a work site in northern Iraq on September 14

## CO-OPERATION MEETING MAKES LITTLE PROGRESS

# Comecon no nearer convertible currency

BY PATRICK COCKBURN IN MOSCOW

PRIME MINISTERS from the Soviet-led trade group Comecon ended their meeting in Moscow yesterday with little progress towards convertible currency payments within the bloc, absence of which is a serious hindrance to trade between Comecon members.

Although Comecon has decided in principle "to establish convertibility of currencies," this will have to wait until the Soviet Union has reformed its system of wholesale prices, according to yesterday's news conference.

Earlier at the meeting Mr Mikhail Ryzhkov, the Soviet Prime Minister, had pressed for radical reform, noting that changes in the markets in the West had created unfavourable conditions for the Soviet Union and other Comecon members.

This is presumably a reference to the fall in the price of oil and gas, the Soviet Union's main hard currency exports, and the difficulty facing East European countries whose industrial exports are facing heavy competition on world markets.

But Mr Ryzhkov's plea for greater co-operation between Comecon members appears to have produced few results this week. The Soviet Union is particularly interested in joint ventures in which Moscow would benefit from links with high technology East European enterprises.

Two thirds of the Soviet's trade turnover in the first six months of the year, Roubles 40bn (€40bn) out of Roubles 63bn, was with Comecon countries. But further growth is hampered by the lack of a single

convertible currency.

The Soviet attitude to Comecon has changed since Mr Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in that greater emphasis is now placed on trade and contract prices rather than centrally planned economic links. The problem is that until the Soviet economy has itself switched to wholesale trade at prices reflecting production costs and demand it is extremely difficult for Soviet enterprises to start trading on their own account with Eastern Europe.

Speakers at the news conference immediately after this week's meeting admitted that a more flexible system was needed but said that Comecon would continue to use the transferable rouble. They also said that national currencies would be used more in joint ventures but did not specify how this

would work. The Comecon countries are clearly eager to see how Soviet economic reforms will affect them. For instance, a key part of price changes now being planned in Moscow is raising the wholesale price of raw materials, particularly of fuel and energy, to Soviet enterprises. This will presumably have an impact on some prices paid by East European countries.

The Soviet Union is also getting tougher with Vietnam and Cuba, Comecon members receiving economic assistance from Moscow who have been publicly blamed this year for wasting aid. This week a Cuban official gave a detailed rebuttal of Soviet criticism in a letter to the weekly magazine New Times.

# No early launch for Soviet space shuttle

BY PETER MARSH

THE Soviet Union is in no hurry to enter the era of reusable spacecraft by flying the space shuttle it has under development, according to a top Soviet official.

Mr Oleg Shynkin, deputy minister for general machine building, whose responsibilities include space projects, said the maiden launch of the vehicle was "not a principal question" for the Soviet Union. Mean-

while, it would continue its policy of keeping orthodox expendable rockets as its main technique for putting objects into space.

Mr Shynkin, who was speaking at an international space conference in Brighton, went out of his way, however, to praise the exploits of the US in developing the world's first fleet of reusable space shuttles.

He called the development "a

great achievement in astronautics" - despite the fact that the US shuttles are grounded until at least next year as a result of the Challenger accident in January 1986.

Mr Nicholas Johnson, an authority on the Soviet space programme, said Mr Shynkin's comments fitted in with his view that the Soviet shuttle would not fly before 1989 at the earliest.

Mr Johnson, a space scientist at Teledyne Brown Engineering, a US aerospace company, said the Soviet Union had little need for the shuttle to take people and payloads to its Mir space station.

According to Mr Johnson, the Soviet shuttle would become particularly useful only in the mid-1990s, when the USSR is expected to have in operation a new, expanded space station.

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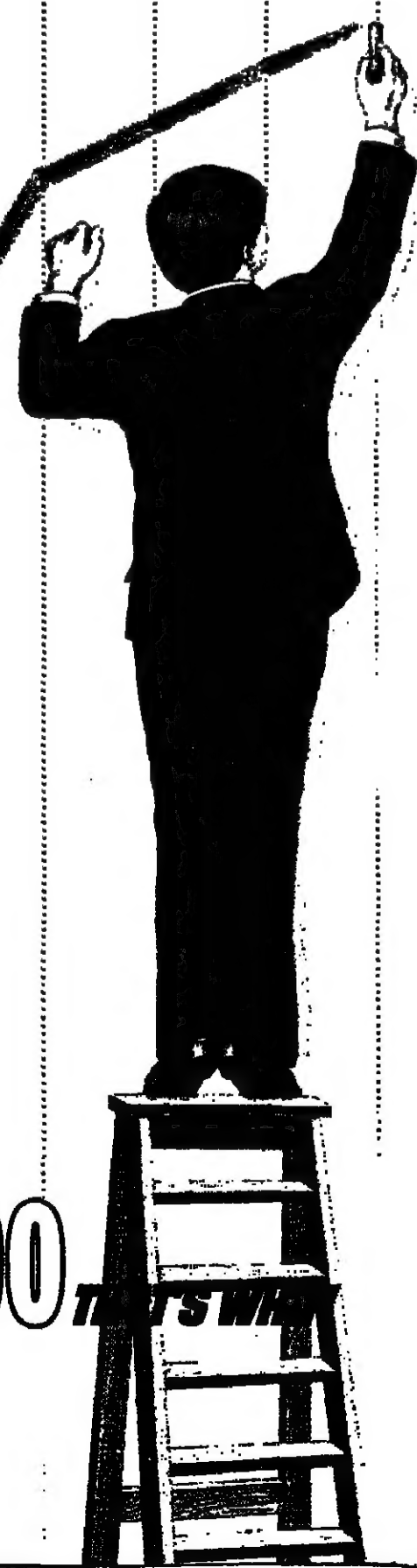
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## Moscow urges revival of UN military body

BY ANDREW GOWERS, MIDDLE EAST EDITOR

THE Soviet Union has suggested reviving an important though hitherto unused part of the United Nations machinery in a move which would give the world organisation more power and authority to enforce its decisions and may have a significant bearing on UN efforts to end the Gulf war.

The proposal to revive the UN's Military Staff Committee - a body supposed, according to the organisation's founding Charter, to give the UN military teeth to enforce its resolutions - has been floated by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and is reiterated by his deputy, Mr Vladimir Petrovsky, in a programme on the UN and the Gulf war to be broadcast by BBC radio this night.

Mr Petrovsky, himself a former diplomat at the UN, said the organisation's charter should be fundamentally re-examined.

"If we try to read it anew we will find that a lot of unused opportunities exist which could be helpful for the solution of certain situations," he went on. "And one of these opportunities is the use of the Military Staff Committee. I think this is a very important body. Unfortunately, it has not been used through the history of the UN, but probably the time has come to try it."

Mr Petrovsky's remarks bespeak a new interest in the UN and reflect the improving climate in East-West relations. Experienced Western observers speculated that they could presage a more positive Soviet attitude to UN peace-keeping operations - a view already implied by Moscow's support for so far unanimous efforts by the UN Security Council to secure a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, and by its call for a naval force



Petrovsky: UN opportunities

under UN auspices to police the Gulf.

The Military Staff Committee, designed under the UN Charter as a statutory body to back up Security Council decisions with force if necessary, fell victim to Cold War rivalries between the superpowers.

The Security Council is due to decide today on what step to take next over the Gulf war. The US and Britain have been pressing for the drafting of an international arms embargo on Iran, but the Soviet Union has stalled.

Separately, Moscow yesterday sought to deflect claims that it is tilting towards Iran over the Gulf war. A senior Soviet foreign ministry official, Mr Oleg Ponomarev, told a Soviet newspaper that increased economic links with Tehran, including the proposed renovation of a natural gas pipeline between the two countries, were still under review.

## Bomb explodes outside leading Manila hotel

BY RICHARD GOURLAY IN MANILA

A LARGE bomb exploded outside a leading Manila hotel at midday yesterday destroying most of the concrete porch and injuring 10 people. No-one has claimed responsibility.

The bomb at the party Japanese Manila Garden Hotel was the second to explode outside five star hotels in three months. Although it seems the bomb was not meant to cause serious injury, the blast caused a concrete porch to collapse onto the roof of a hotel bus.

Last month Ang Bayan, a Communist Party of the Philippines publication, said that violent acts such as destroying electric plants was justifiable. The party's military wing, the New People's Army, has admitted destroying at least eight power pylons and two bridges south of Manila but has not claimed responsibility for any sabotage in Manila itself.

Observers said more likely suspects are right-wing opponents of President Corason Aquino. However, Col Gregorio Honasan, the leader of a failed coup in August, said in a recent television interview that he would use "non-confrontational" methods and would not resort to indiscriminate violence in his continuing campaign to topple Mrs Aquino.

Meanwhile Mrs Aquino said that the Government was prepared to reopen peace talks with the National Democratic Front, a coalition of underground groups including the Communist Party and the New People's Army. "The Government is ready to resume negotiations," Mrs Aquino said in response to a vaguely worded statement from an NDF spokesman on Monday who said his group "declared its readiness to dialogue."

## Taipei agrees China visits

BY BOB KING IN TAIPEI

THE Nationalist Party's powerful central standing committee yesterday approved visits to China for many residents of Taiwan in what one government official termed "a major breakthrough."

The committee, during its regular weekly meeting, decided that residents with close relatives in China could return for family visits. The decision specifically excluded civil servants and military personnel on active duty, however, as well as most Taiwanese, whose ancestors began migrating here more than 300 years ago.

The decision, which will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval, follows months of intense debate during which progressive figures argued for a complete removal of sanctions on visits. More conservative officials, meanwhile, opposed any liberalisation at all, arguing that the Government must be seen as retreating from its oft-stated policy of "no contacts, no compromise, and no negotiations" with the Peking regime.

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## Australian steel maker to treble job losses

By Chris Howard in Sydney

BROKEN HILL Proprietary, Australia's largest steel producer, is to treble the rate of job losses at its steel plants in order to meet productivity targets.

A statement from the group yesterday said a total of 5,500 jobs would be lost at three key plants over the next 14 months. This compares with a target rate of 1,500 a year achieved under the Steel Plan, which ends in January 1990.

Behind the change is a determination by BHP's steel division to meet productivity targets of more than 350 tonnes per man per year by the 1990s. Having risen to a level of 220 tonnes in the financial year to May 1986, productivity fell back in the most recent 12 months to 270 tonnes.

The group says the only way to meet its productivity targets, which are still less than the levels achieved abroad, is through job losses. Many of BHP's productivity levels above 400 tonnes, the company points out, with some integrated works reaching 1,000 tonnes.

BHP is currently conducting a corporate study on the restructuring of the whole group. Among the many options is a possible public flotation of the steel interests, along the lines of the Gold Fields earlier this year.

Yesterday the company said the steel job losses would be secured through natural wastage rather than retrenchment, but BHP admits that some retrenchments may be needed to meet the new targets. It also says another 1,500 jobs will have to go after 1990.

Under the Steel Plan, BHP has slashed steelmaking capacity from more than 5m tonnes a year to 1.5m to 2.5m tonnes currently and is investing some A\$1.5m (US\$1m) over five years in plant, processes and technology.

Last year the company claimed it was one of the world's most cost-effective steel producers, thanks in part to its access to high-grade raw materials and energy.

But productivity failed to improve because output was hit by strikes and a slowing of heavy capital expenditure, and by a worryingly high level of industrial disputes.

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## Israel experiences taste of Islamic fundamentalism

BY ANDREW WHITLEY IN JERUSALEM

THE WAVE of violence in the past week in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip regions has so far claimed seven lives - six of them Palestinian - leaving dozens of others injured. Coming on the eve of tomorrow's visit to Israel by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, the clashes have been the worst this year.

They prompted a swift condemnation by the State Department on the use of "lethal force" by Israeli troops. Tuesday's statement was also coupled with a pointed reminder to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that the incidents demonstrated once again the need for progress in the deadlocked Middle East peace process.

More disturbingly, from the Israeli Government's viewpoint, the latest violence has alerted public attention to the emergence of a new breed of Islamic fundamentalists in the occupied territories, some of them armed with more lethal weapons than the demonstrators' usual bricks and stones. The spark which lit the latest brush fire was the death of four members of the shadowy Islamic Jihad group, who had earlier escaped from jail in a shoot-out with security forces.

Concentrated in impoverished, hopeless Gaza, where most of the population are refugees, these young militants express their willingness to taste blood in confrontations with Israeli troops. With little prospect of material or political advancement, many are eager for posthumous hero-worship as martyrs.

Yesterday, tensions appeared to be subsiding with only scattered demonstrations and clashes reported in and around Arab East Jerusalem and the nearby town of Ramallah. Most shops and businesses reopened after a three-day "protest cl-

Israeli security forces have smashed a major guerrilla mob work of the Islamic Jihad movement in the occupied Gaza Strip and arrested at least 50 suspected guerrillas, security officials said yesterday. Heister reports from Jerusalem. They said a shooting in Gaza last week in which four Islamic Jihad fighters and an Israeli undercover security agent were killed led investigators to discover a big underground weapons arsenal in Gaza's Shuja'iye district and to make dozens of arrests. The guerrillas are suspected of numerous attacks and acts of sabotage in the Gaza Strip. In recent months, they said.

sure, in the case of Ramallah at sunset.

All agree that the chances of trouble re-igniting at a moment's notice are very real. Indeed, the matter-of-fact approach being adopted by the troubles by General Dan Shomron, the armed forces' recently appointed Chief of Staff, underlines this assumption.

"I think we will return to the same, normal level of violence that never ends and probably won't end soon. But it is a level we can live with," Gen Shomron, regarded as a political liberal, assured Army Radio listeners on Tuesday.

He described the death of a 35-year-old mother of five in Ramallah, shot through the heart while walking past a demonstration, as "the price paid by those in the immediate vicinity."

Addressing a large group of pro-Jordanian Arab mayors and civil servants from the West Bank the same day, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin expressed the same confidence as his chief of staff that the violence was containable. But he

suggested that the recent upsurge had been deliberately instigated from abroad, to create an atmosphere of tension to coincide with Mr Shultz's visit.

Such theories are regularly advanced by Israeli officials during the periodic outbursts which punctuate the calendar in "the areas," as the West Bank and Gaza Strip are euphemistically dubbed in the local media. But they are usually way off the mark, finding the need for a *deus ex machina* to explain away the unpalatable mood of the subjugated population.

On the other side of the fence, the arguments of such men as Mr Rashid al-Shaywa, the grand old patriarch of Gaza, that the violence is simply a product of frustration - and not the work of Muslim extremists - are also losing their relevance. Condemned these days by young Gazans as an anachronistic has-been, the deposed former mayor appears unaware of the strength of feeling in such centres of protest as Gaza's Saudi-financed Islamic University.

In Jerusalem, the death on Sunday of a young Israeli man, shot by a group of assailants in the Old City the previous day, has revived calls for the imposition of the death penalty for terrorism, terrorist crimes. While Prime Minister Shamir has voiced his support, Mr Rabin countered by restating his own opposition to a step he regards as counter-productive.

The current religious holidays and a nine-day strike by Government radio and television journalists backing most news have dampened the debate. But, once the Shultz visit is out of the way by early next week, the arguments for and against capital punishment for terrorists are likely to be resumed in full force.

## NZ dollar plunges in turbulent market

NEW ZEALAND'S currency market was thrown into turmoil yesterday as the local dollar took another plunge while dealers measured comments by senior ministers on Government intervention. Heister reports from Wellington.

The dollar closed at 63.45 US cents, a drop of almost 4 cents in two days, after large selling orders from Australia and Asia.

The dollar's rise from 44.44 US cents when it was floated in

March 1985 to a record 67.03 cents last week has upset exporters by making their goods less competitive abroad. They have criticised the Government for not intervening.

The fall began on Tuesday when Mr David Cargill, Trade and Industry Minister, said the Government had never ruled out intervention.

It continued yesterday after Mr Roger Douglas, Finance Minister, said in a terse state-

ment at Sydney airport, on his way home from a visit to Japan, that intervention had never been considered.

The Labour Party Government does not normally comment on exchange rates and some New Zealanders saw the statements as a sign of dispute between the ministers.

But Mr Cargill's said in an interview he saw no contradiction between not ruling out intervention and actually considering action.

## Botha in Botswana brine talks

BY JIM JONES IN JOHANNESBURG

MR "PIK" BOTHA, the South African Foreign Minister, held talks with the Botswana Government in Gaborone on Tuesday on plans for the exploitation of underground brine deposits at Soda Pan in the north of Botswana.

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Soda ash, which is largely used in glass-making, is plentiful in the north of South Africa's consumption comes from Kenya, though various domestic alternatives have been under consideration for some years. South African companies are keen to establish coastal soda ash plants based on sea water, but their viability, too, depended largely on an exclusive domestic market.

The Botswana Government is keen to see the Soda Pan deposits developed, at an estimated

cost of Pula 500m (£180m). Soda Pan is in a remote and underdeveloped part of the country and exploitation of the brine deposits would allow better roads to be established in the area.

Last year, according to unofficial reports, the Botswana Government agreed to the exclusive marketing arrangements needed for the Soda Pan development. The quid pro quo, it was said, was the Botswana Government's agreement to restrict the activities of the ANC inside its country.

## Steel plant sacks 4,000 strikers

HIGHVELD Steel & Vanadium has dismissed about 4,000 black employees who have been striking over wages for a month. The company has also ordered that the men be evicted from their accommodation in the local black township, Jim Jones reports.

In Johannesburg yesterday a spokesman for Anglo American, which manages Highveld, declined to comment on the dis-

pute. The National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa says that 4,000 men have been on strike at the company's steel plant and at a quarry and iron mine. The union says that Highveld had offered wage increases ranging from 41 cents to 75 cents an hour (22p to 22p) but that the men had struck over their demand of a 75 cents across-the-board increase. Highveld has started to hire

replacement labour and says that strikers may be re-hired before October 21 with no loss of service benefits. The union says that sea labour has been brought in from the Natal town of Newcastle where mill closures earlier this year have left black steel workers unemployed.

Highveld has increased its vanadium pentoxide price to \$2.95/lb from \$2.65/lb.

## Tunisia to restore links with Libya

TUNISIA IS re-establishing diplomatic relations with Libya at the consular level, two years after breaking ties following threats from Tripoli and the expulsion of thousands of Tunisian workers, the official TAP news agency announced yesterday. AP reports from Tunis.

President Habib Bourguiba appointed Mr Mohamed Salah Al-Oulani consul general to Tripoli, TAP reported. It said the decision comes after talks between the two countries during which both sides "expressed the wish to develop relations on a solid and clear basis."



## AMERICAN NEWS

## Reagan denied air time on Bork

By Lionel Barber in Washington

PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan's hopes of addressing the US on behalf of Judge Robert Bork, his doomed Supreme Court nominee, were crushed yesterday when two of the three television networks, CBS and ABC, declined a White House request for air time. NBC said the broadcast, scheduled for yesterday afternoon, was "in the balance".

Radio and cable network news will carry the six-minute speech, but the networks' decision to prefer their afternoon soaps to the President is a fitting anti-climax to a sham-bolic White House campaign on behalf of Judge Bork.

On Friday, when Judge Bork elected to fight on in the face of certain defeat in a US Senate vote, some praised his courage, others spoke of his last stand. But the late charge of the "Right Brigade" this week turned into a rout.

On Tuesday, President Reagan's staff distributed a speech in which he castigated Judge Bork's opponents for running a "sophisticated campaign of smear and lies". The lines were later dropped when some-ones reminded Mr Tom Crisp, Reagan's speechwriter, that Judge Bork himself had declared he wanted to take the politics out of the debate and get back to principle.

The offending passage was excised. So too was a lyrical piece referring to the "Frank Capra film, Mr Smith Goes to Washington, in which James Stewart stands in the wall of the Senate and says: 'Lost causes are the only causes worth fighting for'".

Mr Reagan duly read out the emasculated version in New Jersey, but then ad-libbed that the Bork battle had turned into a "political joke" and vowed to find another High Court nominee "that they'll object to just as much".

Democrat leaders have promised an early vote to put Judge Bork out of his misery, but conservatives are still pressing for several days of debate to get their case across. Just to prove he had heard enough, Democrat Senator Harry Reid of Nevada became the 54th senator to come out against Judge Bork.

Mr Howard Baker, the White House chief of staff whose strategy of portraying Judge Bork as a militant moderate has backfired, was lying very low yesterday.

## Liberal triumph in New Brunswick

By David Owen in Toronto

THE CANADIAN Liberal Party yesterday secured its second crushing provincial election victory in two months, winning all 58 seats in New Brunswick to end 17 years of Conservative rule.

The result represents a sweeping endorsement of the energetic campaign style of Mr Frank McKenna, the Liberal leader.

It also marks a sad exit for Mr Richard Hatfield, the former Premier, who lost the riding (constituency) which he has held since 1961 to a 45-year-old schoolteacher.

In all, the Liberals received 62 per cent of the popular vote, approximately in line with repeated opinion poll projections compared with 28 per cent for the Tories and 11 per cent for the New Democratic Party.

Before dissolution, the Liberals held just 20 seats in the legislature, against 37 for the Conservatives and one for the NDP.

In a campaign dominated by personalities and, in the Liberals' case, the music of Dire Straits, the 39-year-old Mr McKenna undoubtedly benefited from lingering memories of Mr Hatfield's personal problems, including a trial on charges of marijuana possession (he was acquitted, in 1986 and 1985).

The former's son turned lawyer, who first caught the public eye when he successfully defended a former Canadian light-heavyweight boxing champion on a murder charge in 1977, has consistently campaigned on a platform of delivering only what the province can afford.

On national issues, he has promised to seek changes in the Meech Lake constitutional accord on the grounds that it will weaken the federal government.

Only once before in this Province's history (in 1935) has a single party (the Liberals) won every seat in a Canadian provincial legislature.

## Vancouver deal likely on aid for frontline states

By Robert Mautner in Vancouver

COMMONWEALTH heads of government yesterday embarked in Vancouver on a discussion of southern Africa without any prospect of persuading Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, of modifying her opposition to increasing sanctions against Pretoria.

However, with other member countries showing little stomach for more than a token fight on the subject, it seems likely that agreement will be reached on a package of economic measures to help the African frontline states.

In her opening speech to the conference on Tuesday, Mrs Thatcher specifically endorsed joint action to help the frontline states reduce their dependence on South Africa and the other leaders have accepted that this is as far as she will go.

The southern African debate, together with the private meeting of the leaders at a so-called retreat at the Lake Okanagan resort, will be the centrepiece of the conference. The heads of government are discussing a range of problems, including the situation following the military coup in Fiji and the crisis in Sri Lanka, which are not on the formal agenda.

The southern African debate was preceded by a discussion on Tuesday on the world political scene, during which Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore Prime

## Cardenas to stand for Mexican presidency

By David Gardner in Mexico City

MR CUAUTEMOC Cardenas, leader of the dissident Democratic Current within Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), has announced that he will stand for the presidency against Mr Carlos Salinas de Gortari, unveiled as the regime's candidate last week.

The move raises the possibility of a significant left-wing nationalist challenge to the regime in presidential elections next July, particularly if talks succeed in unifying the fractured Mexican left behind Mr Cardenas.

The move is a serious competition to the 70-year-old regime has faced in recent years has been from the right-wing National

Action Party (PAN), which has become a vehicle for largely middle class protest votes against the regime. The PRI has never conceded a significant office, much less the presidency, at the polls.

The ruling party, which has a declared left-wing nationalist programme, has generally mustered a majority through the electoral machines operated by the corporatist sectors of workers, peasants and bureaucrats' unions into which it is divided. But when threatened electoral it has been prepared to rig ballots, a practice revived by this government in several gubernatorial and municipal elections.

Mr Cardenas' decision marks the dissidents' definitive break with the ruling party, after nearly a year of skirmishing and two bungled attempts by the PRI leadership to expel them.

The Democratic Current has challenged President Miguel de la Madrid's right to nominate his successor, the way all Mexican presidents have been selected for single six-year terms since Mr Cardenas' father, the revered President Lázaro Cardenas, stepped down in 1940.

The Cardenas faction has also called for a U-turn on economic policy, and on Monday said it was "echoing a national rejection of the continuity of policy represented by Mr Salinas. The

young Planning Minister has been this Government's architect of Thatcherite structural economic reforms, including a reduced state role in industry, radical import liberalisation in a bid to diversify away from oil, and a huge budgetary shrinkage equivalent to nearly 10 per cent of gross domestic product.

Little impact on a foreign debt burden which will rise to \$110bn next year and inflation which rose to a record annualised 135 per cent last month, while real wages have been halved and unemployment has doubled.

Mr Cardenas is a left-wing nationalist, former PRI state gov-

ernor and senator. He is calling for a debt moratorium, massive rebuiling wages and a return to a more closed, more "independent" economy, all options he has assembled under the persuasive heading of "national sovereignty".

Mr Cardenas is preparing now to stand formally for the so-called Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution (PARM). This is an anachronistic, parasitic group, which in its 30-year history has served as a home for retired generals, a safe depositary for losers in PRI inter-caste wars, and most recently to swell the Government's built-in majority on the Federal Electoral Commission which runs



Salinas faces challenge

## General to head Peru's defence ministry

By Barbara Durr in Lima

PERU'S President Alan Garcia was to swear in the country's first Minister of Defence yesterday. Gen Enrique Lopez Albujar, commander of the army, was chosen to lead Peru's new defence ministry, which amalgamates the ministries of army, navy and air force.

It was widely speculated that President Garcia would name a civilian as Defence Minister, but the army, Peru's most powerful service, is understood to have objected. Army officers led Peru's last coup in 1968.

Gen Lopez Albujar, who has studied in Britain and the US, is respected within the army as a professional soldier and is regarded by diplomatic observers as the best choice among active service officers.

President Garcia has called the creation of the ministry "an historic step". He proposed the consolidation of armed forces ministries last March, when it was approved in an extraordinary session of the Congress.

It prompted discontent in the military, particularly the air force, the smallest but richest service. As a sign of its unhappiness, the air force buzzed the presidential palace, a protest that subsequently led to its commander being relieved.

## Reagan, Duarte praise Arias peace plan

PRESIDENT REAGAN and El Salvador's President Jose Napoleon Duarte praised the Central American peace agreements yesterday, but warned that all countries must fully implement the accords.

Reagan, who was in Washington, said: "The prospects for obtaining peace, though still far from certain, are better than at any time this decade," said Mr Reagan in welcoming Mr Duarte to the White House.

Mr Duarte, starting a three-day state visit to Washington, said peace was "a step closer" as a result of the accord that he and four other Central American presidents

signed in Guatemala in August. Breaking from the protocol of a state visit that includes a ceremonial military parade in the White House lawn, Mr Duarte stepped down from the podium he shared with Mr Reagan and walked some 25 yards to kiss an American flag.

"There have been many times in my life in which people with hate in their hearts have set fire to an American flag," Mr Duarte said. "This time permit me to give it a kiss."

The leaders later met privately in the Oval Office for what Mr Reagan said would be a taking of account of

the progress on the implementation of the peace agreement.

Their meeting came a day after Costa Rican President Oscar Arias won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in forging the peace plan that sets a November 7 deadline for cessations in civil wars in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala.

US politicians said the award could make it difficult for the White House to win new military aid for the Nicaraguan Contra rebels it supports and could be seen as a step in the face to Mr Reagan, who has called Arias' plan "fatally flawed".

In his welcoming remarks, Mr

Reagan said the US remained "fully committed to exploring every opportunity to end the violence that plagues the region."

He told the Organisation of American States last week that the peace plan was "a step in the right direction."

"We want to see the peace process succeed," he said.

But in an apparent reference to Nicaragua, Mr Reagan said El Salvador had been "victimized by an insurgency armed, trained and headquartered in a nearby country."

## Chile blocks probe into death of ambassador

AN ARMED forces judge has refused to re-open investigations into the 1978 murder in Washington of Mr Orlando Letelier, a former diplomat and leading opponent of Chile's military government, after reports from Santiago.

The US has sought the extradition of two former chiefs of the Chilean secret police for the murder of Mr Letelier.

Mr Letelier was Santiago's ambassador to Washington during the

leftist government of Mr Salvador Allende.

Mr Letelier's family requested the case be re-opened in Chile after a former secret police official confessed to a role in the plot and said he had been acting on police orders.

However, a Santiago military judge ruled on Tuesday that the confession made before a Washington judge was not acceptable under Chilean law, since the man had been offered leniency in exchange for the confession.

## Company AIDS policies urged

By Deborah Hargreaves in Chicago

US corporations were urged to educate their employees about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome to avoid panic about the spread of the disease at a conference for businessmen in Chicago.

Mr C. Everett Koop, US Surgeon General, said AIDS should be treated within a corporation's existing policy for chronic illness and that the AIDS patient should not suffer discrimination.

He pointed out that certain neurological problems associated with the disease may mean an employee with AIDS should be taken off operating heavy machinery. But AIDS victims "should be expected to perform satisfactorily or be offered something less responsible," Mr Koop said.

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## WORLD TRADE NEWS

## Court rules Sumitomo infringed fibre patents

BY RODERICK GRAM IN NEW YORK

A US court has ruled that Sumitomo Electric Industries of Japan has infringed two patents held by Corning Glass Works of the US on fibre-optic products.

The ruling brought to a head a long-running battle between the two companies, each of which claims the other has been infringing its patents. The products constitute the core of fibre optic cables for which demand is growing strongly in the telecommunications and computer industries.

However, practical and financial impact of the ruling is likely to be limited. Sumitomo Fiber Optics of Research Triangle, North Carolina, said it would stop manufacturing fibres until the legal issues were resolved. It will buy in fibres from manufacturers licensed by Corning so it can continue to make cables.

The fibres, which are currently in excess supply, are worth about half

the value of the finished product, said Mr Robert Swirbul, senior vice-president of Sumitomo Fiber Optics.

He estimated Sumitomo had a 10 per cent share of the \$300m-a-year US market dominated by Corning and AT&T which together have 70 per cent.

Sumitomo, which initiated the legal battle in 1984 to clarify the patents' coverage, will also appeal against the ruling, arguing that the court took too wide a view of the patents.

If the legal remedies fail, Sumitomo will be able to resume manufacturing fibres when Corning's key patent, number 915 covering long-distance transmission fibres, expires in May 1988.

Judge William Conner, of the New York Federal Court, ruled that patent 915 "clearly covers a basic pi-

oneering invention" which Sumitomo "willfully infringed".

He also ruled in favour of Corning on its 550 patent covering short-distance transmissions used, for example, in computers. A third patent, number 454 on a manufacturing process, was not infringed, he said, because Sumitomo had modified its process.

The court has yet to assess damages dating back to 1985 when Sumitomo began fibre manufacturing in the US. A Corning lawyer said it could receive several millions of dollars. A Corning spokeswoman said it was too early to assess the long-term impact of the rulings.

The judge said the infringed patents, granted in 1972 and 1973, "terribly created a new industry of substantial size". Worldwide sales of fibre optic cables totalled about \$800m last year.

## Japan and EC head for fresh clash on liquor

By Ian Rodger in Tokyo

JAPAN appears to be heading for a fresh row with the European Community over its taxes on alcohol. Recent reports suggest Tokyo will refuse to bow to EC complaints that the taxes discriminate against imported wines and spirits.

Last year Japan's Ministry of Finance proposed a partial reform of liquor taxes, but the European Commission dismissed these as unacceptable and filed a complaint at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

A GATT panel sent a confidential report on the issue last month to the two parties. Last week stories appeared in the Japanese press claiming the report condemned Japan's liquor tax system as incompatible with GATT rules. Mr Andreas van Agt, head of the EC delegation in Tokyo, said yesterday that "we do not quarrel" with these reports.

The stories have given details of reforms that the Ministry of Finance apparently proposes to put forward early next year.

Finance Ministry officials have confirmed that they intend to propose revisions, but, according to the press reports, they will be virtually identical to those put forward last December.

That package consisted of the removal of the ad valorem portion of the current two-tier system so that tax would be determined solely on alcohol content. Also, two of the three classes of whiskies would be unified for tax purposes. But the higher class, into which all most imported whiskies, would still attract a much higher rate of tax.

Those proposals were never enacted because the overall tax reform bill of which they were a part was withdrawn from the Diet (parliament). However, the EC then said they were unacceptable. It seems unlikely that the EC's attitude towards the reforms proposed last year will have changed.

One interpretation of the leaks is that they are related to the campaign to choose a successor to the Prime Minister Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone. It may be that some officials oppose reform and are trying to provoke one or more of the candidates into making an electoral promise not to remove the protection system for Japan's powerful drinks industry.

## Trade war threat sparks row in Brazil

BRAZILIAN ministers were yesterday locked in fierce row over how to defuse a potentially explosive trade war with the US over Brazil's ban on imports of American computer software.

Writes Ivo Dawson in Rio de Janeiro.

This follows the decision by the White House's Economic Policy Council to postpone temporarily plans to retaliate with punitive tariffs on selected Brazilian exports, despite pressure from US industrialists and a unanimous recommendation for action from the US Trade Policy Review Group.

Behind the US decision lay fears that worsened trade relations could jeopardise crucial talks due this month between

Brazil and its bank creditors on the eight-month-old moratorium on payments on \$68bn in longer-term loans.

The tariffs, which could hit Brazilian orange juice, footwear and car exports, had been widely expected by the US software industry after Brazil refused an import licence for the MS-Dos programme sold by Microsoft.

US diplomats believe that the ruling directly contravenes agreements between the two governments reached last June after a year of talks.

In Brasilia, the Itamarati - the Brazilian External Relations Ministry - is said to be angry

with officials at the highly nationalistic Information Technology Secretariat (SET) for pressing ahead with the import ban.

Senior diplomats have now informally urged the SET to pursue appeal procedures before ordering retaliation. But it is by no means certain that the Brazilian body that will hear the case will order the ban to be lifted.

Much will depend on the position taken by President Jose Sarney in the dispute between the Itamarati and the Science and Technology Ministry, headed by a renowned protectionist, Mr Renato Archer.

While the president is anxious to avert worsened relations with the US, he is even more concerned not to alienate further his supporters in Congress, many of whom would back the import ban. Mr Sarney is currently engaged in an extremely delicate effort to win cross-party backing for his political programme.

The legal basis for the refusal of an import licence for Microsoft rests on the claim that a similar national equivalent software programme already exists. Ironically, Scopus, the Brazilian makers, have all but publicly admitted that their software is a direct copy of Microsoft's MS-Dos.

## Lionel Barber in Washington on an uneven division of benefits

## US-Canada trade pact disappoints

TODAY CANADA, tomorrow the world, the New York Times declared in a ringing endorsement of the draft US-Canada free trade pact.

At this early stage, it seems fair to forecast that the prospect of a free trade zone between North America's two neighbours will enjoy overwhelming support in the US press. Protectionism rarely finds much favour in the editorial columns south of the Great Lakes and the US-Canada outline agreement reached 10 days ago will not prove the exception to the rule.

So the Reagan Administration has some powerful allies in the forthcoming struggle for public opinion. In turn, that should help shape the votes in the House of Representatives and US Senate needed to gain final approval of the accord between two countries whose annual trade already amounts to \$135bn.

US negotiators, helped by a bevy of lawyers, are now putting flesh on the agreement which has to be sent in final form to Congress by January 3 1988. The House and Senate will then have 90 days to approve the deal, under a "fast track" mechanism set up on the US side for negotiating, considering and voting on the trade pact.

Simultaneously, US officials have begun seeking the views of the two Democrat committee chairmen on Capitol Hill whose support will be vital next year. Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and Representative Dan Rostenkowski of Illinois, who heads the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee.

So much for the political atmosphere: what about the substance of the pact? Despite presidential rhetoric about historic breakthroughs, many observers (including some US officials who have briefed reporters themselves over the past weeks) are reluctant to trumpet the pact as an earth-shaker.

A senior official at the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) noted, for example, the agreement to eliminate all agricultural tariffs within 10 years and to remove the requirement for licences for US wheat and grain shipments to Canada.

He admitted that the talks had failed to extend the free trade concept to dairy products, tobacco, peanuts and the tightly-regulated Canadian beer industry. But he said the two countries' agreement to exempt each other from their respective meat import law restrictions might lead to tougher competition for the US industry (though Canadians had skirted the rules in the past by shipping live animals rather than dead meat).

In sum, however, the USDA official reckoned that the net benefit would add some \$200m to \$300m to the annual bilateral trade of \$4.7bn agricultural products. It's not a massive increase but it maintains the momentum towards freeing up agricultural trade.

By contrast, senior US Treasury officials were gushingly supportive of the deal which they said provided a guiding light for the Uruguay GATT round because it covered not only goods, but services too.

By the Treasury's estimation,



James Barber: late intervention

Canadian screening of US investment will be lifted. US acquisitions of Canadian companies will also be treated less harshly. The gross asset threshold for triggering such a review will rise from \$25m to \$150m: in future, investors will only face a review if they buy a controlling interest in any of the 500 largest Canadian companies.

The Canadians agreed to scrap rules which require that foreign investors give Canadians a minimum equity position of between 10 and 25 per cent. That means that US companies can buy up to 100 per cent of a Canadian financial institution without review - aside from the six largest Canadian banks.

Last week, suspicions grew that Mr James Barber, US Treasury Secretary, whose late intervention in the talks forged a

last minute agreement - had strongarmed the Canadians. Treasury officials involved in the talks denied this, but they could only single out one tangible benefit accruing to the Canadians in this area: exemption from the Glass-Steagall Act which separates commercial banking from securities underwriting and other investment activities.

The other main area of interest last week was the automobile and truck sector which accounted for \$56.6bn in bilateral trade in 1985. In US eyes, their negotiators scored a political victory: US auto manufacturers such as General Motors, Ford and Chrysler will be able to manufacture cars and parts in Canada for duty-free sale in the US, but the same benefits will be denied to the Japanese and Koreans sending their cars through Canada into the US market.

The US-Canada free trade pact has arrived just as Congress is debating a wide-ranging Trade Bill with many protectionist elements. Nuggets like those contained in the auto pact are useful to throw into future negotiations with Congress on the content of a trade bill: they make it doubly hard for Congress to claim the high ground on protecting US industry.

On the other hand, Messrs Bentsen and Rostenkowski know how much the Reagan Administration wishes to put a US-Canada free trade pact on public display. The temptation to cut a deal on threatened parts of a Trade Bill using the US-Canada pact as a bargaining chip, must be rated high.

## Airbus: call for US co-operation

BY GEORGE GRAHAM IN PARIS

A FRENCH parliamentary commission has called for increased co-operation between McDonnell Douglas, the US aircraft producer, and Airbus, the European consortium which is its rival in the civil aviation market, in a bid to ease the mounting tension between the US and the European Community over the way Airbus is financed by EC governments.

Senator Maurice Blin, presenting the commission's report, said the

US and the EC must at all costs avoid coming to blows over the issue of Airbus, which American aircraft manufacturers, such as McDonnell Douglas and Boeing, accuse of being illegally supported by state subsidies.

The prospect of co-operation between the two aerospace groups has been frequently raised, including the possibility of working together on a stretched version of the Airbus A-320 airliner.

Mr Blin said it was ironic that the US was eager to continue the co-operation in aircraft engine production between General Electric and Snecma, the French state-owned aero engine producer which this week received a FF2.5bn (\$410m) state advance for the development of the Unducted Fan Motor, while claiming that the Airbus financing arrangements are against the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

## Japan's faulty trucks criticised

BY ROBERT THOMSON IN PEKING

THE Chinese government has made a rare public criticism of Japanese companies for allegedly having sold faulty trucks to Chinese corporations which "suffered economic losses" and are seeking compensation.

Relations between China and Japan have deteriorated this year, and Chinese officials have privately claimed that Japanese companies frequently offload shoddy products here, but have rarely identified them. However, a report in the People's Daily yesterday alleged that large shipments of Hino and Nissan

trucks have been defective. The official newspaper said the trucks were purchased by the State Bureau of Materials and Equipment from the end of 1985, and that drivers had complained of problems with brakes, windshields, tyres and the cab roof. The report also claimed some of 10,000 imported Nissan trucks had serious engine faults.

Diplomats said the Chinese government was attempting to embarrass the Japanese companies into providing further compensation. Nissan has already

given compensation to some of the owners of trucks with alleged flaws, but the People's Daily made clear that China expected far greater compensation.

Since the fall in mid-January of the Communist Party general secretary Hu Yaobang, Sino-Japanese relations have faltered, with Peking complaining of an increase in Japanese defence spending, a rise in militarisation, a bilateral trade surplus in Japan's favour, and the reluctance of Japanese companies to invest here.

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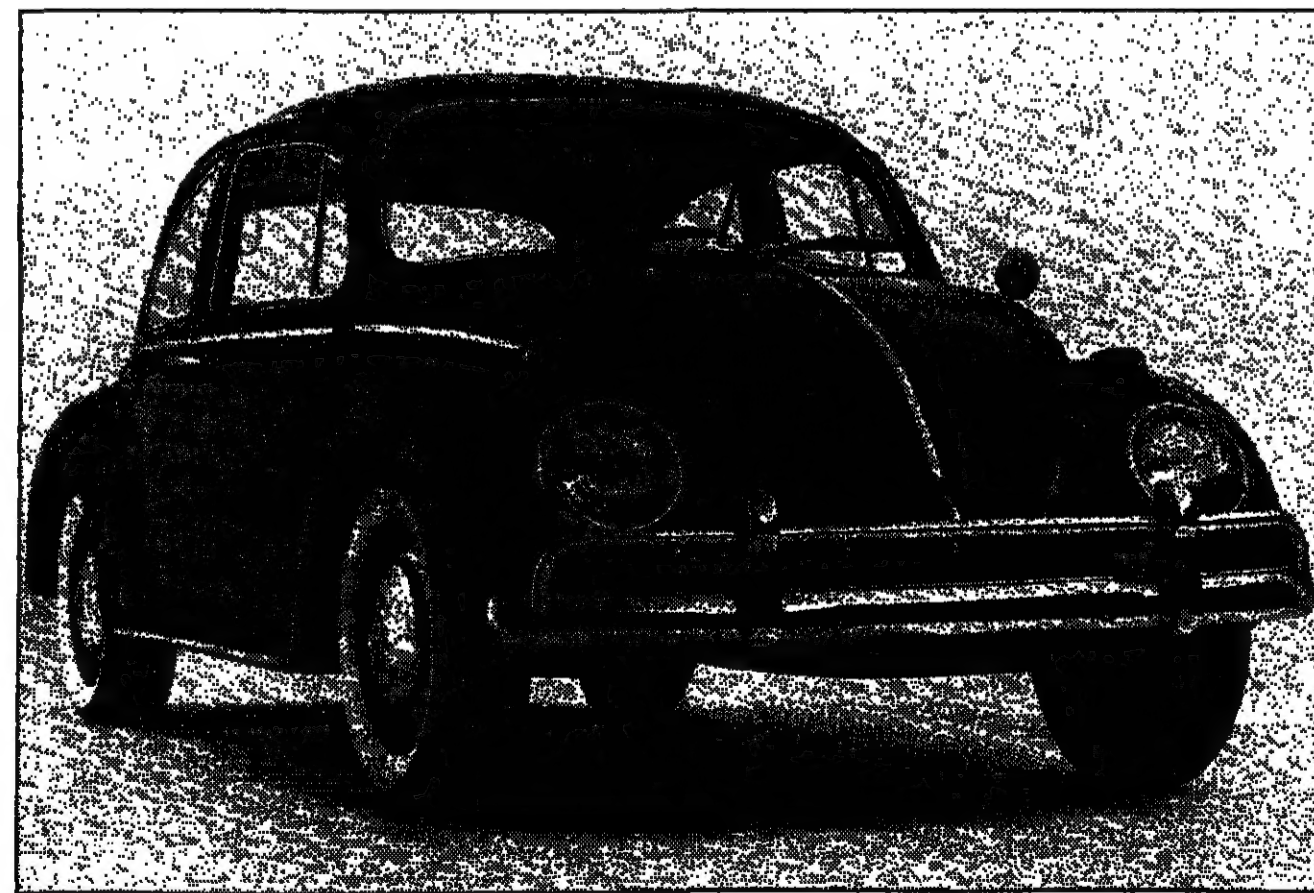
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## TECHNOLOGY

Peter Marsh reports on efforts to develop commercial uses for algae

## Stagnant ponds may find healthy markets

ALGAE - the tiny, primitive plants found in many natural sites from the soil to stagnant ponds - are among the most ubiquitous forms of life, but until recently have had little commercial use.

Matters are changing, however, as a small group of companies around the world seeks to exploit algae, grown using modern scientific techniques, for such applications as fish farming, food additives and anti-cancer treatment.

Leading the way is Eastman Kodak, the US camera and film company which in recent years has diversified into high-tech areas such as biotechnology and electronics.

For the past year, Kodak has had a marketing arrangement with Microbio Resources, a San Diego company which grows algae in giant ponds under closely controlled conditions.

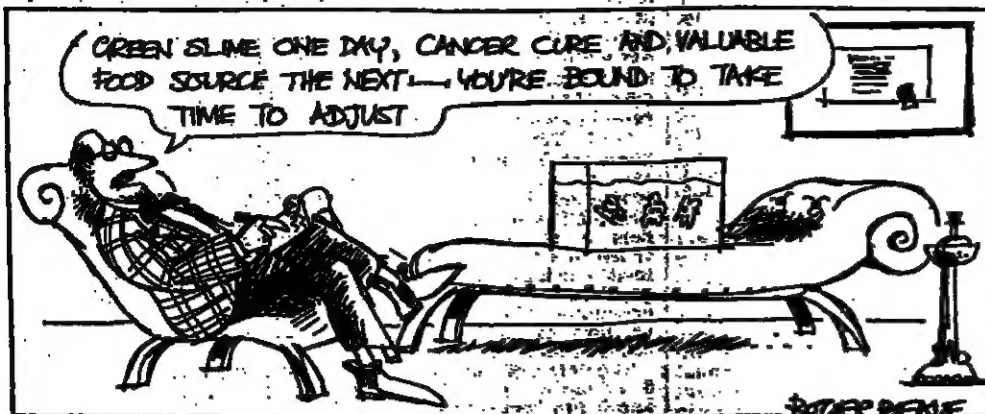
The camera giant is selling to food companies beta-carotene, a naturally occurring pigment obtained from Microbio's algae, and used as food colouring.

Other companies, including Photobioscience of Britain and Biotech and Western Biotech of Australia, are using similar methods to produce beta-carotene which, besides its role as a food additive, may also, according to some physicians, help to prevent certain kinds of cancer.

Food companies are looking for new, non-synthetic ways to produce additives, such as beta-carotene, because of the increasing demand for fewer artificial colourings and flavourings. Such a preference is especially strong in Japan.

Beta-carotene - found in carrots but in minute concentrations - is normally too costly to produce in its natural form. As a result, most of the estimated \$80m (£48.5m) worth of beta-carotene used each year to colour foods, such as margarine and orange drinks, is made artificially, with the leading suppliers including big chemicals companies like Hoffman La Roche and BASF.

While algae production may also be useful to turn out in a wholly natural way other kinds of pigments used in colourings, its biggest potential could lie in providing food for fish. Cell Systems, a company in Cambridge, UK, is trying to raise 22.5m to finance a plant that would produce hundreds of



tonnes of algae a year to use as a feedstock for fish and molluscs in fish farms, particularly in Asia.

With output from fish farms worldwide running to some 7m tonnes annually, Cell Systems believes the market for feed for fish farms from scientifically cultivated algae may run to hundreds of millions of pounds a year.

According to Bruce Hillcoat, an aquaculture specialist at Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch conglomerate which runs fish farms in Scotland, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Chile, scientifically grown algae would have to compete with the conventionally produced algae which form a large proportion of the food stock for fish farms globally. "A theory at least the manufactured algae could be produced more reliably," he says.

Microbio of the US is also interested in the fish-farm market. It has produced pigments used in this area which it has sold in test quantities to BP, the UK oil company, and Nishino Flour Mills of Japan, both of which are involved in aquaculture.

At the heart of growing algae scientifically is the issue of greatly increasing the concentration at which they can be produced, compared with the wild. This is done by starting with a culture of microorganisms, material (similar to that found in fertilisers) and then subjecting this to carefully controlled conditions of temperature and pressure. In fermenters, with the addition of other biological organisms, a set interval.

With such techniques, says Graham Johnson, managing di-

rector of Reading-based Photobioscience, algae can be grown at a concentration of up to 10 grams a litre, which he says is 200 to 400 times denser than would be the case under natural conditions, in a garden pond for example.

The algae are subjected to continual checks on quality and are harvested at the optimum time, by physical and chemical separation methods. Beta-carotene can be extracted from certain kinds of algae in a later, separate chemical process.

In Photobioscience's case, the company was set up last year to exploit biological work by Professor John Pirt of King's College, London. The company is growing its algae in a man-made pond shielded by plastic covering in an experimental plant at Reading University.

In the wild, sunshine is vital to

algae production. It provides the energy to turn carbon dioxide and water to sugar, which in turn enables the algae to develop. While Photobioscience's plant is exposed to the sun - indeed the company is thinking of moving to South Wales or Cornwall to get more of it - Cell Systems has developed a way of growing algae which does not depend on sunlight.

In Cell Systems plant, which it thinks will be responsible for annual production of 50m worth of algae within the next few years, the biological culture is fed directly on a diet of sugar.

David Krompin, commercial development director at Microbio in San Diego, says his company's algae production has taken advantage of some of the US's best farming conditions - with non-stop sunshine virtually guaranteed at its algae farm in California.

This installation consists of eight ponds, each of one acre, and over the past three years has, says Krompin, produced \$3m worth of beta-carotene obtained from algae by dissolving the microscopic plants in vegetable oil.

For his part, Larry Drumm, beta-carotene products manager at Kodak's bioproducts division, admits that beta-carotene, besides being an "unusual" substance for the company to sell, represents only a small market at present. He says the total world market for natural beta-carotene adds up to no more than \$1m a year, though he thinks this will rise to \$15m to \$20m by 1992 as consumer tastes for natural foods become more entrenched.

## WORTH WATCHING



Edited by Geoffrey Charlish

## Take-off for the rugged portables

HUNKY COMPUTERS, rugged portable machines for use "on the move" are finding their way into a number of new applications; the latest involving airline, railway and insurance companies.

The machines, with the dimensions of a medium-sized book, obviate paperwork and speed up the recording of information and its dispatch to a central computer.

On Monarch Airlines, for example, Hunky's Hunter machine provides screen and keyboard management of in-flight sales. On the ground, the Monarch mainframe leads stock and price details into the portable which is held in flight by the cabin staff's radio entry device. It displays prices for the user and customer, and automatically adjusts the stock record of the aircraft. Reconciliation for the customer authority is made easy and then, after landing, the contents of the Hunter memory are uploaded into the mainframe to produce management information and stock re-ordering data.

On French railways, 180 Hunters will soon be in use by inspectors at goods stations for recording and checking the composition of goods trains. The portable's stored data is then downloaded over a telephone line into a Paris goods train administration computer.

Meanwhile, in the UK, the "Man from the Firm" will soon turn up on the doorstep with one of Hunky's units, programmed to deal with the details of premium collection, arrears and other insurance policy matters. Prudential Assurance has 5,000 representatives in the UK dealing with 2m policies. The Hunky unit will replace the representative's collection book and give him more time for sales and advisory activities.

The figures come from Fedder's 14th annual UK survey. The report of the survey costs £2,500.00 and more information can be obtained on 01-578 5111.

## A meeting of distant minds

A COMPACT colour video conference unit, which can be wheeled from room to room and costs £28,500, has been developed by Interact, which is part of Windsor Television, the cable television group. The unit allows up to six people to hold a conference with another six using a similar unit, so long as a suitable connection can be made to the location.

If the system is used within a cable television area, the cost is reduced to less than £20,000 because the cable network can be used to carry signals without further processing. Signals are taken outside the area via a shared signal processing unit, which digitises and compresses them for onward transmission over telephone company digital links. But normally such a device, known as a codec (standing for compression/de-compression), is built into the system and sends digital signals straight into the digital telephone channel. (Codecs allow television signals to be accommodated within the capacity of available digital circuits.)

At each end of the conference link, with the people seated, a camera can be programmed to point at any participant - the chairman has a control unit. Two screens are provided to allow the face of any speaker to be seen at the other end, along with any document or slide (screened on a special Internet unit). If necessary, either screen can be split into two or three to show more of the faces in the group.

An added advantage of the Internet unit is that it can be wheeled into the security room at night to provide screens for the surveillance camera network.

## Electric fruits of the sea

THE COMBINED production of electricity and fresh water from surface thermal energy in sea water is now a worthwhile proposition, according to Argonne National Laboratory in the US.

The technology, ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC), has been demonstrated on a small scale at the Natural Energy Laboratory in Hawaii. After further development, says Argonne, OTEC power plants could produce power and fresh water for island communities, using only energy from the sea. A 10MW plant could produce 6m gallons of fresh water a day and enough electricity



for 10,000 to 20,000 people.

Warm water at about 75 deg F (23.5 deg C) is drawn into a chamber where the pressure is only about one per cent of atmospheric. Due to the low pressure, about one per cent of the sea water turns to steam and is used to drive turbines. It later condenses to fresh water by cooling in heat exchangers that use cold water drawn from a greater depth at 44 deg F (6 deg C).

The energy to pump the sea water and create the necessary low air pressure is only a small fraction of that generated by the turbines.

## Point made for smaller shops

SMART TERMINALS of Southampton, Oxford, in the UK, is attacking the electronic point of sale (EPoS) terminal market with £1,500 units which the company says will make EPoS more attractive to smaller retail outlets.

Each terminal (and three are just as economical as 64, the maximum) is separately connected by its own cable to price look-up and stock files held on semiconductor mass storage units. The company decided against local area networks and disc storage to obtain higher transaction speeds. With 64 terminals running and with laser scanning at the check-out, the response time of the new TMR 6000 terminals is claimed to be less than one second per article.

Smaller retail outlets can add a back-office personal computer to enable clerical and stores staff to enter data, about deliveries for example, while owners or managers can obtain reports about stock levels and trading figures. All the files are updated as the transactions occur at the sales points.

Smart Terminals achieved a major success with its previous systems by equipping the Argos store chain in the UK with 200 terminals.

CONTACT: Hesty Computers, UK, 0203 607101, Ireland, UK, 0753 845040, Argonne, US, (312) 978 8284, Smart Terminals, UK, 0800 82824.

## Maps for the genetic detective

BY LOUISE KENNE IN SAN FRANCISCO

A MAJOR step towards identifying the human genes that are responsible for hereditary diseases, and which seem to make some people predisposed towards developing heart disease, arthritis, some forms of mental illness and cancer, has been achieved by a Massachusetts genetic research group.

Sending the genetic research world into a flurry of excitement, Collaborative Research announced last week that it has developed a "genetic linkage map" of human genes. The map represents the first step toward developing a detailed picture of the human "genome", the blueprint of human chemistry.

The linkage map is akin to a list of almost 400 "landmarks" in the uncharted genome. Researchers who are trying to locate defective

genes or those that cause disease can now narrow their searches to the approximate locations provided by the landmarks, or markers, as they are scientifically termed.

The Collaborative Research map for the first time encompasses all 23 human chromosomes in human genetic material. According to the researchers, it is 95 per cent complete although efforts continue to add more markers. Within a year or two, 600 to 800 markers may be identified, greatly enhancing the map, according to Dr Helen Donis-Keller, who led the genetic mapping effort.

However, true "maps" of the human genome, which would include fine detail of the relative positions of different genes and their sub-components, are still several years away.

## Group power holds sway in the electronic office

BY ALAN GANE

PEOPLE like working together in groups - even in the electronic office. New figures from Fedder Associates, which monitors computer installations in the UK, shows that the greatest growth in office systems is in linked workstations which form "integrated office systems".

A market for these systems is up by 50 per cent during 1986, with most activity in the 5-24 and 25-49 workstation sectors. These meet the demand of

work group activity where a number of staff work in a co-ordinated fashion on a common project or activity.

Wang had a good year in the 25-49 workstation category, and IBM dominated the 100-plus sector, although Thorn EMI's "Roer" system also made a good showing in this area.

The figures come from Fedder's 14th annual UK survey. The report of the survey costs £2,500.00 and more information can be obtained on 01-578 5111.

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## UK NEWS

## Employers seek new measures to spur investment

BY TERRY DODSWORTH, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S employers yesterday rejected claims that City of London pressures on industry were inhibiting long-term planning and called instead for additional Government measures to stimulate investment.

Demand for a new approach by the Government followed publication of a Confederation of British Industry report which argued that there was little real substance in the belief that the financial markets were forcing companies to concentrate too much on their short-term profits performance.

Although many British companies had given insufficient weight to long-term development, the report said, this arose mainly from underlying economic and political factors, including inadequate profitability, rather than City pressures. The Government had an im-

portant role in correcting the causes of short-term bias, "not least in ensuring that public-sector purchasing is used to promote long-run industrial competitiveness, sterling remains competitive and public expenditure does not crowd out company investment."

The conclusions of the report, undertaken by a joint industry/City task force, were taken up by the CBI later yesterday at the first of the new three-monthly meetings of the National Economic Development Council, the forum made up of employers, Government and unions.

In a paper addressing the issue of improving the UK's industrial competitiveness, the CBI called for Government help in stimulating investment through reductions in corporate taxation.

Details, Page 12; Lex, Page 18

## Strong increase in output held at underlying rate of 5 to 5.5%

BY PHILIP STEPHENS, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

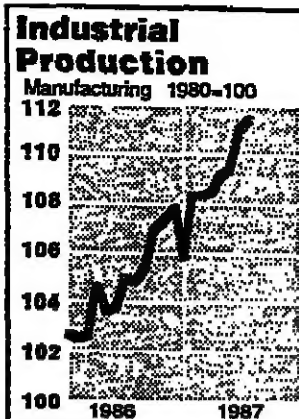
THE STRENGTH of the rebound in Britain's manufacturing output since early last year was underlined yesterday by official figures showing that production continued to rise strongly in August.

Government statisticians believe that the figures confirm their earlier judgment that output is now growing at an underlying rate of 5 to 5.5 per cent.

In the three months to August, manufacturing companies produced 1.8 per cent more than in the previous three months and 3.5 per cent more than in the comparable period of 1986.

Statisticians believe that the figures for the latest two months may be erratically high, reflecting problems with seasonal adjustments during the summer holiday period. But there is no sign of any weakening in the underlying upward trend.

After a pause in the early months of 1986, manufacturing output has since risen steadily, with the pace of growth accelerating after the pound's sharp devaluation at the end of last



per printing and publishing (up 9 per cent) and electrical engineering (up 6.8 per cent). The man-made fibres industry, however, remains depressed, with production 8.5 per cent lower than a year earlier, while the food industry has shown growth of only 2.9 per cent.

One blemish on an otherwise generally encouraging picture was provided by some downward revisions by the Central Statistical Office of their estimates of production in the second quarter of this year.

This suggests that recent growth in unit wage costs - a key indicator of inflationary pressures - has not been as subdued as previously thought. Figures to be published today by the Department of Employment are expected to show the annual pace of increase over recent months in unit costs at closer to 2 per cent than to the 1.2 per cent shown in last month's statistics.

Yesterday's output figures also show a rebound in North Sea oil production during August

## Tighter City rules on investment delayed 6 months

BY ALEXANDER NICOLL, EUROMARKETS EDITOR

THE BRITISH Government yesterday announced a six-month delay in implementing a key clause in the Financial Services Act under which investors may sue for damages if they lose money as a result of a breach of rules by an investment firm.

Lord Young, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the extension, from the scheduled date of next April, would allow investment companies a temporary breathing space in which "teething problems" - such as in administrative procedures or computer systems - encountered in the introduction of investor protection rules could be sorted out.

The delay, of a part of Section 62 of the Act passed last year, applies to breaches of rules of self-regulatory organisations, the bodies which will authorise investment firms to do business and monitor their behaviour and their financial resources.

The decision was welcomed by securities houses which have lobbied for a delay. They have argued that the clause had made the framing of investor protection rules under the Act excessively complex.

Mr Andrew Large, chairman of The Securities Association, praised the more flexible attitude which he said had been shown recently by Lord Young and by the Securities and Investments Board, the umbrella regulatory body.

The Government move was attacked, however, by Mr Tony Blair, Labour Party shadow Minister for Trade, who said that he would seek a commitment from Lord Young that the

ment from Lord Young that the clause would be implemented.

"My worry is that under the guise of dealing with administrative problems, there is a deep hostility to the idea of Section 62 and to individual actions for damages," Mr Blair said.

Lord Young, speaking at a Financial Times conference on the effect of the Act on international securities markets, said there was no question of abandoning Section 62.

An investor who lost money due to a firm's misconduct would be comforted little by the punishment of that firm, and a compensation scheme was also an incomplete and unsatisfactory answer, he said.

Lord Young, who said that the target for implementing the full investor protection framework would not be extended beyond next April, rejected suggestions that it would drive investment business away from the UK.

The Act, he said, was intended to make the UK financial services industry efficient and competitive. It was aimed to inspire confidence in London as a "clear" place in which to do business, as well as being sufficiently flexible to accommodate structural industry changes.

The growing flexibility of the SIB was shown by Sir Kenneth Berrill, its chairman, who told the conference the SIB's final rule-book, due to be published today, would broaden substantially the definition of "business investors."

Lex, Page 18

## In Brief

## Rolls-Royce in \$115m high-tech engine deal

Rolls-Royce has won a \$70m order from Ansett World-Wide Aviation Services of Australia, for RB-211-535E4 high-technology engines in six Boeing 737-400 aircraft ordered by the aviation leasing group, Michael Deane writes.

The value of the order includes initial supply of engines for the twin-engined 737s and servicing support during operational service.

The 535 engine has now been specified by 16 of the 21 customers for the Boeing 737 so far. Deliveries are due to start early in 1988.

WINGS WEST, a US regional airline, has placed a \$65m (€40m) order with British Aerospace for 15 B-737-400 twin-engined, 12-seater aircraft.

Ireland to cut spending Irish Government spending will drop in real terms during 1988 for the first time in 30 years, by almost £400,000,000.

## Waite appeal

The Archbishop of Canterbury has written to Libyan leader Col Gaddafi for his help to secure the release of missing church envoy Terry Waite.

## Vauxhall strike likely

Manual workers at Vauxhall Motors' car plant at Luton seem increasingly likely to strike from Friday afternoon in a dispute over the recalculation of productivity bonuses.

## Warning on refugees

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, warned of a flood of "bogus" applications for refugee status following an Appeal Court decision that six Tamilis are allowed to stay in the UK.

## Paisley heckles Hillery

The Rev Ian Paisley staged a one-man banner-waving protest against Ireland's President as Dr Patrick Hillery began a speech in the European Parliament praising the Common Market.

## Dockland's first flight

The first flight into London's docklands from the newly-built Plymouth airport inaugurated a regular passenger service to Paris and Brussels.

## Soccer arrests

Eight men, alleged to belong to a notorious gang of soccer hooligans known as "the Zulu Warriors," were arrested by West Midlands police, bringing to 45 the number detained in a major crackdown on organised football violence called "Operation Red Card."

## Talks on hooligans

European troubleshooters met in London to explore new moves to combat football hooliganism in the first conference of its kind in which the finishing touches will be put to a new international information network aimed at beating soccer thugs.

## Cheese production cut

Traditional English cheese makers, forced to stop production because of a milk shortage caused by EC regulations, are in danger of losing their markets to dairy farmers in Northern Ireland.

## Transplant for baby

A five-month-old baby girl became Britain's youngest heart transplant patient after a 6½-hour operation.

## Belfast clean-up

More than £150,000 is to be spent giving Belfast a better image through a major advertising and promotional campaign to revive the heart of the city that a decade ago was virtually deserted after dark because of the IRA bombing campaign.

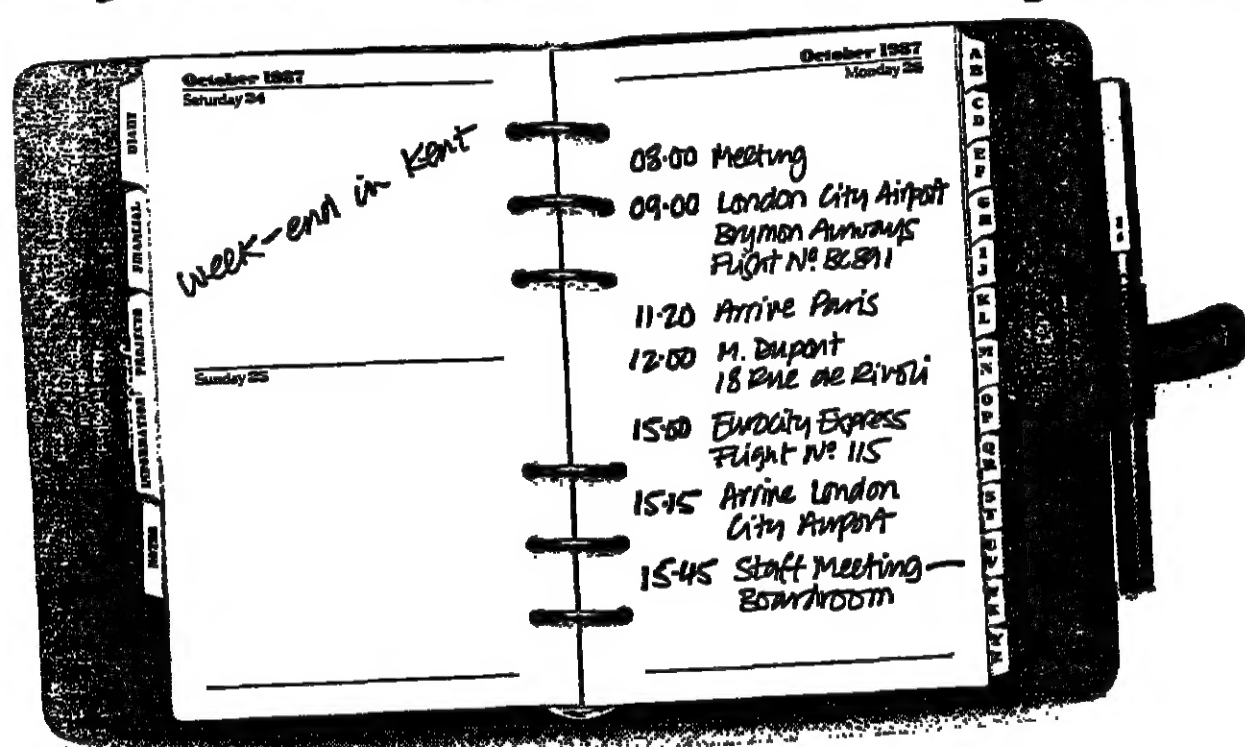
## Library warning

Labour Party spokesman on arts Mark Fisher pledged that there would be "bitter resistance" to any Government moves to privatise Britain's libraries after Arts Minister Richard Luce suggested that libraries look for joint partnership opportunities with the private sector.



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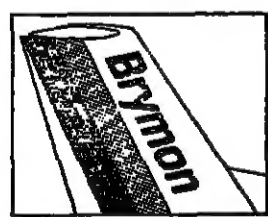
Time for an early-morning debrief in the City before catching a 9 am flight; time for a long meeting with business associates in Paris; and

time at the end of the day to catch up on events back at the office.

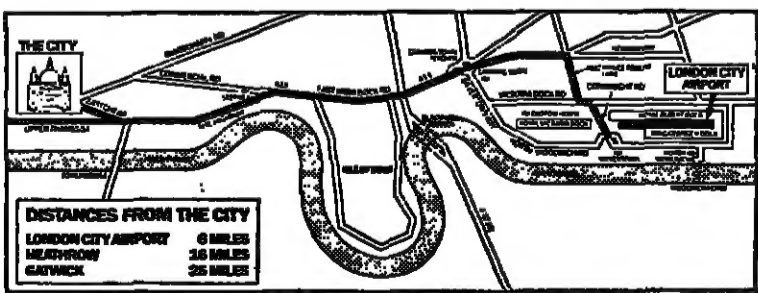
London City Airport will be offering regular flights to Paris, Brussels and Plymouth (and other key destinations soon), backed up by specially tailored airport facilities and in-flight services.

With Docklands already taking off as the financial and commercial centre of the UK, London City Airport is set to change the face of business travel.

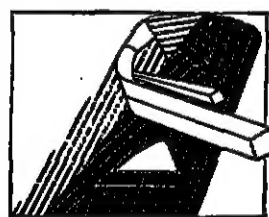
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## UK NEWS

## Unemployment falls slightly in rural areas

By Andrew Taylor

Rural unemployment in England fell slightly last year in spite of the loss of a further 7,000 agricultural jobs, according to the annual report of the Development Commission.

The government-funded agency said the average rate of unemployment in rural development areas in England fell from 10.4 per cent to 9.7 per cent last year.

Lord Vinson, commission chairman, said the improvement was not due to any special measures but to the fact that the number of people unemployed in rural areas remained high, jobs were likely to continue to be shed as the shake-out in agriculture continued.

Large numbers of jobs were also being lost from industries which service farms. Companies creating jobs were much more likely to come from service sectors such as tourism and leisure and from high technology companies.

"High technology activities like computing are often extremely appropriate to the countryside, requiring less workspace than traditional industries and able to operate without affecting the environment," said Lord Vinson.

More than a quarter of companies assisted by the Council for

Small Industries in Rural Areas, the commission's principle agency for helping companies create jobs, were involved in applying new technologies in areas such as plastics, electronics, clothes, food and drink production.

Service industries, particularly in leisure and tourism, accounted for 17 per cent of companies assisted.

Contrary to what one might expect only 14 per cent of firms helped are the traditional country crafts such as pottery and furniture, said the commission.

Lord Vinson said that during 1986 the commission had:

- Let a record 584 workshops providing about 2,900 job opportunities; it had also invested £14.5m to build new workshops.

- Approved 344 grants under the Redundant Building scheme which had attracted £14m in private finance at a private/public funding ratio of three to one.

- Offered grants totalling more than £1.1m for rural development programmes with funding from other sources matching the commissions grants on a ratio of four to one.

Other programmes had included top-up schemes for housing and transport facilities.

## Evidence of growth in Welsh economy

By Anthony Mowson, Welsh Correspondent

FURTHER EVIDENCE of the strong growth in the Welsh economy came yesterday with official figures showing that the index of production and construction rose by 2 per cent in the second quarter of the year compared with the first three months.

The index itself reached 105.1 (1980 = 100) at the end of the quarter.

Compared with a year earlier the rise was even more significant, reaching 5 per cent.

Manufacturing output alone rose by 2.3 per cent during April, May and June and by 5.7 per cent over the 12 months.

Had it not been for a few sectors, such as coal, gas, electricity and textiles, which all fell back quite sharply over the 12 months, the rate of growth would have been much higher.

Because of a change in the method of compilation it is not possible to make fair comparisons back beyond the start of 1985 according to the Welsh Office.

The present standard industrial classification, on which all the statistics are based, now differs considerably from earlier days and the Government warns that any comparisons should be made with great care.

Nevertheless, it is clear that electrical and instrument engineering, the food, drink and tobacco sectors, metal manufacturing and gas and oil extraction are moving ahead strongly.

Electrical engineering rose by 16.3 per cent over the 12 months, with the index standing at 163 at the end of the second quarter. Even this figure was not far ahead of the 1985 level.

The Ayr Holiday World is the fourth of Butlins's five such complexes to be completed in the last year, which lost money last season, would have closed if Bank Or-

## Andrew Taylor on concerns about how housing plans will affect the most deprived Associations worry over home economics

NORTH Housing Association, founded in 1933 by the father of Mr Nicholas Ridley, Environment Secretary, owns more than 20,000 homes across 6,000 square miles of northern England. In May this year the association successfully raised £55m on the London Stock Exchange.

Compare this with Threshold Single Persons Housing Association, which own just over 700 properties in west London. The association has recently started using low start, index-linked building society mortgages to help finance one or two schemes but lacks the size, track record and expertise it will need if it is to raise private funding on any large scale.

The plight of some of the black housing associations, which have sprung up recently, in some of the most run-down areas of Britain, appear to offer little security or attraction for private investors.

Yet the Government expects housing associations such as North, Threshold and the black associations, which since the 1974 Housing Act have been funded almost entirely by government grants, to find a greater proportion of their funds from the private sector in future.

The diversity of the housing association movement means that different houses will have to be found for different

courses if the Government's plans are to succeed. Most associations will not be able to issue their own bonds as North has done.

To overcome this problem the Housing Corporation, which administers grants to housing associations, and the National Federation of Housing Associations will next month launch an independent investment body.

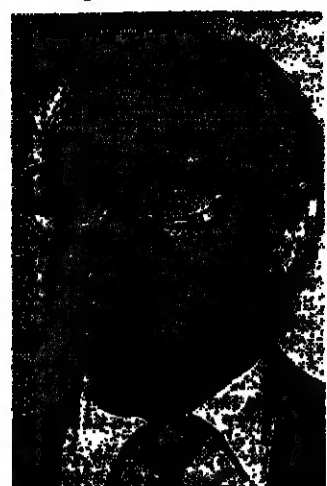
It will raise money from capital markets to lend to packages of schemes proposed by individual associations.

The schemes will continue to receive partial subsidy from Housing Corporation grants but rents will have to be high enough to repay interest and capital on money raised from the private sector.

Higher rents will apply only to schemes built under the new arrangements. The Government says tenants unable to pay these higher rents will be subsidised through housing benefit.

Large housing associations such as North are expected to devise their own arrangements. James Capel, the London stockbroker owned by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking group which organised North Housing Association's bond issue, says it is working on 14 smaller schemes for other housing associations.

There are more than 2,500 voluntary, non-profit-making housing associations in Britain, com-



Nicholas Ridley: father founded an association

ment's policies, which will mean an end to Fair Rents for new lettings - although existing tenants will continue to be protected.

One of the biggest reservations, according to Mr Paul Rydquist, director of Threshold, is whether the Government will be prepared to finance the large rise in housing benefit which associations say will be needed if rents are to be increased more in line with costs.

About 70 per cent of housing association tenants already receive housing benefit. Others will be brought into the benefit net as rents rise.

"Worse off will be those on low incomes who do not qualify for housing benefit, or receive only a small amount of subsidy. Many will find that they are better off unemployed having the whole of their housing cost met from benefit," says Mr Rydquist.

A study by the London Housing Associations claimed that a nurse earning £115 a week could have to pay £43.55 a week rent for a 50 per cent privately-financed housing association scheme. This compared with a rent of £17.50 under Fair Rent arrangements. The nurse, in spite of being £26.35 a week worse off, would not be eligible for housing benefit, said the associations.

The Government argues that the system will provide a safety net for those who need it but

that those who can afford to pay higher rents should do so to allow aid to be better directed at those who really need it. It intends to introduce measures to prevent unscrupulous landlords from milking benefits by forcing up rents.

Associations are also concerned that finance raised from the private sector should be regarded as additional money and not as a lever to reduce public expenditure.

Mr Alan Ridman, chief executive of North Housing Association says: "We should regard this as an opportunity to put more money into housing for those in need, if we can achieve that we will have succeeded. It would be a disaster if the proposals are simply to be regarded as a means of achieving the same results for less public money."

Still to be decided is what proportion of private sector finance will be regarded as appropriate for mixed-funded schemes. Mr Ridley has accepted that subsidy levels will have to vary in different parts of the country.

Associations will need to be convinced that money available for new developments will increase as a result of the new arrangements and that the cost will not be so big that it forces their traditional customers out of the only market available to them.

## Seat expects big rise in import sales

By Kenneth Gooding, Motor Industry Correspondent

SEAT, the Spanish car company owned by Volkswagen of West Germany, expects to increase its UK car sales by a further 75 per cent next year to 15,000.

As a result the company set up to import the Spanish car, Seat Concessionaires UK, a Loughborough subsidiary, should break even in 1988, said Mr Guy Sinden, acting chief executive.

Seat UK yesterday celebrated its second anniversary and in its two years it has sold 14,000 cars and established a dealer network of 150.

Mr Sinden said the dealer network was "generally very profitable" and that Seat car sales had been built up without massive marketing support or distress marketing while the UK car market has been plagued by European over-capacity, heavy discounting and retailers' complaints about low profitability.

It has not been all plain sailing for the new company, however. In June 1986, Mr Sinden, managing director, resigned unexpectedly. It is believed he left because Seat UK

was not making financial progress fast enough to please Loughborough.

The company incurred a £4.5m loss in its first year of trading on a turnover of £18.7m.

Mr Sinden said it would probably be a month before a decision was made about Mr Sinden's replacement. The signs are, however, that Seat might be drawn much closer to VAG (UK), another Loughborough subsidiary and the importer of VW and Audi vehicles to Britain, although Seat would continue to have its own, separate dealer network.

Mr Sinden said Seat would sell about 8,000 cars in the UK this year, against a target of 5,000, because the Spanish group could not keep pace with demand throughout Europe.

Seat aimed to produce about 380,000 cars in 1987 but will turn out 410,000.

In the long term, the company, owned by 150 and 200 dealers in the UK, to achieve a 1 per cent market share by the end of 1988 and eventually 1.5 per cent.

## The Star loses Co-op advertising

By Raymond Stoodley

THE STAR newspaper yesterday lost its second big retail advertiser when the Co-operative Wholesale Society decided to follow Tesco in withdrawing its advertising.

Mr David Skinner, CWS deputy chief executive, retail and service, said yesterday: "We have been seriously disturbed by the change in the nature of The Star in recent weeks."

The CWS, which handles most of the Co-op's national advertising, said the decision would affect advertising worth about £380,000 in a full year.

Mr Andrew Cameron, managing director of Express Newspapers, which publishes The Star, said yesterday he was surprised at the timing of the CWS's decision which came as moves were under way to make The Star a more balanced newspaper.

## Whitbread staff changes

By Lisa Wood

WHITBREAD, the brewing and retailing group, has reorganised its senior management and appointed a new main board director.

Mr Peter Jarvis, managing director, will relinquish day-to-day management responsibilities for the core brewing business in order to enable him to devote more time to strategic issues. He retains responsibility for North America and the group's retailing activities.

The new post of deputy group managing director will be filled by Mr Bernard King, managing director of Whitbread Trading, which operates the 4,700 tenanted public houses and sales to the free trade. He will be responsible for beer and public house activities.

Mr Tim Thwaites, managing director of the retail division, has been appointed to the main board.

## Three-year plan to improve BSI

By Robert Williams

THE BRITISH Standards Institution is to be restructured over the next three years in an attempt to improve its service to industry regarding the quality controls it needs to compete in world markets.

In its annual report published yesterday, the body disclosed strong growth in the past year in its market-oriented services to industry. Turnover of its quality assessment service rose 25 per cent and its testing service showed 20 per cent growth in business over the year. Building components, electrotechnical and telecommunications equipment were the main growth areas.

The production of BSI standards showed an increase of 7 per cent, with 709 new and revised standards published in the year.

## Anti-skid braking system produced by joint scheme

By John Griffiths

A FIVE-YEAR joint development programme involving Mazda and Sumitomo of Japan and Lucas Girling of the UK has resulted in the launch of an advanced electronic anti-skid braking system on Mazda's new 626 car range.

The four-channel system, claimed to be a "world first" in terms of its sophistication, is being produced for Mazda by Sumitomo Electric Industries under a technology agreement with Girling.

Lucas Girling is receiving a royalty on each unit as well as a development fee from Sumitomo. Both are of undisclosed size.

The deal is not a straightforward licensing arrangement - as is the case with many other Lucas Girling contracts with Japanese component and vehicle makers - as it has involved Lucas and Sumitomo developing complementary parts of the system in parallel.

Anti-skid control is applied to each wheel individually. The pumping motion usually felt through the brake pedal when such systems are in use is claimed to have been eliminated, and other safety measures include duplicated computers within the control system which continually cross-check data for accuracy.

Potential production volumes are not yet known. The system is being offered as an option on some models and is standard on others. Last year Mazda produced 245,263 of the 626s, according to data from consultants PHS, but hopes for higher sales of the new 626 range.

Girling said yesterday it did not know whether Sumitomo would later be free to sell the system to other Japanese producers.

The system will not be offered in Europe. Girling revealed several weeks ago that it has developed its own advanced electronic anti-skid system to offer to European vehicle makers.

It could be offered for as little as £275-£400 if production volumes were high enough, claimed Girling. BMW currently charges £1,167 for anti-skid braking as an option.

## Manufacturers on target to increase car output

By Kenneth Gooding

CAR production is on course to reach 1.75m this year and 1.8m in 1988, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said yesterday.

This follows a steep fall in production from 1.07m in 1979 to only 867,700 in 1982. Since then annual output has been about 1m. Last year the total was 1,018m.

The major factor in the improvement has been the development made by both Ford and General Motors, the Vauxhall group, to provide more cars from their UK factories to compete in the D-Mark against imports from their continental European plants much more expensive.

The society pointed out that in the first eight months of this

year Ford's car output jumped by 26.6 per cent to 261,207 and Vauxhall's by 16.9 per cent to 118,201.

Increases by the UK-owned companies were not so spectacular. The state-owned Rover group pushed ahead by 9 per cent to 303,075 cars in the eight months, a time when its UK market share has languished at just over 15 per cent against 18 per cent last year. Exports accounted for most of the rise in its car production.

Jaguar's output, at 30,506, was 12.3 per cent up on the first eight months of 1986.

This helped total car production in the UK in the first eight months improve by 14.1 per cent or nearly 100,000 to 658,500, according to figures soon to be published in the society's Monthly Statistical Review.

## Butlins to upgrade Ayr site

By James Buxton, Scottish Correspondent

BUTLINS, the holiday company, is to spend £25m on upgrading its Holiday World at Ayr, which £12m is to be committed before the complex reopens next spring.

The Ayr Holiday World is the fourth of Butlins's five such complexes to be completed in the last year, which lost money last season, would have closed if Bank Or-

ganisation, which owns Butlins, not approved of the expenditure.

Some £5.5m of the initial investment is to be spent creating a sub-tropical water-world, consisting of a set of pools, slides, rapids and waterfalls with a simulated beach.

The upgrading of some of the accommodation to three-star hotel standard will cost £3m. Further upgrading will continue over the next few years. Tarmac has been appointed main contractor.

The investment programme will be helped by a grant of £1.2m from the Scottish Tourist Board, the largest of the state-funded organisations has made.

Mr Alan Dewar, STB chairman, said yesterday he expected the revamped Holiday World to create 1,100 direct and indirect jobs by 1991.

## Manufacturing 'on par with competitors'

NICK GARNETT

MANUFACTURING in the UK has revived to such an extent that it has put Britain on a par with industrial competitors, according to a report on behalf of the Economic League.

The report, by Mr William Manser, former economic adviser to Baring Brothers and the British Institute of Management

clears managers of blame for the decline of manufacturing.

It says causes which were specific to the UK included poor industrial relations, government intervention, and the fierce price rises of the 1970s.

British Manufacturing - Its Record and Prospects. The Economic League, 7 Wine Office Court, Fleet St, London EC4A 3BT. £5.

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## UK NEWS

## Thames Water calls for changes to sell-off plans

BY RICHARD EVANS

MINISTERS have been warned by Thames Water, the biggest and most profitable of the 10 water authorities in England and Wales, that unless they modify their plans to privatise the industry, flotation should be shelved indefinitely.

In its response to the Government's controversial privatisation proposals sent to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Environment Secretary, yesterday, Thames is fiercely critical of the plan to have all regulatory and water management powers to a state-controlled quango, the National Rivers Authority.

A similar response came from North West Water, which also published its submission yesterday. It called for a single, smaller regulatory body for the industry with no operational functions, and urged the pres-

ervation of as much as possible of the integrated river basin management system.

The responses mean that Mr Ridley continues to be faced with major political problems from the industry as he completes plans for privatisation. Only one authority, Severn-Trent, has come out wholly in favour of his proposals, with a second, Anglian Water, in favour with reservations. The remaining eight are hostile in varying degrees.

The final negotiation process will start shortly, with the prospect of a breaking confrontation between the Government and important sections of the industry before a flotation bill is prepared for the next parliamentary session.

Thames stresses that it remains a firm supporter of privatisation. However, it concludes

that the Government's plans would downgrade service to customers, reduce the attractions of flotation to prospective shareholders and cause disruption to staff.

It argues that the responsible protection of the public interest is compatible with the required freedom of management action, for privatised companies, with-out eroding the range of activities for which the water authorities are responsible. The Government's proposals cannot reconcile that situation and in consequence break up the industry as a cohesive entity; the submission states.

Thames recommends the allocation of public sector responsibilities between the Environment Department and the Ministry of Agriculture, the proposed director general and a much smaller NRA, probably employing 200 to 300.

## SE warns firms on backlogs

BY CLIVE WOLMAN

THE STOCK EXCHANGE has written to nine member firms which have a particularly serious backlog of unsettled bargains and informed them they are on a shortlist in danger of having their trading restricted.

The restrictions on the volume of bargains they can carry out on their own or as agents will be applied possibly from the start of the next stock exchange account on October 26. Any restrictions imposed will apply for a minimum of two accounts or four weeks.

Officials from the Exchange, settlements department are to meet within the next week with the firms to find out the causes of their settlement backlog and what form of restrictions would be most effective in allowing them to catch up.

On August 24, the Exchange wrote to the firms with settlement backlogs to tell them that measures would be taken against them unless they improved their procedures. About 15 of those firms have now been dropped from the list because

they have made substantial improvements.

A similar number have been told that no action will be taken against them immediately, but that their performance is not yet satisfactory and will continue to be monitored.

In addition to imposing trading restrictions, the Exchange has threatened to fine firms responsible for large backlogs, to publish their names and to buy in compulsorily the shares needed to settle outstanding bargains.

## Further Spycatcher appeal allowed

BY CHRIS SHERWELL IN SYDNEY

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday won leave to appeal to Australia's High Court against a New South Wales Court of Appeal decision allowing publication in Australia of the book Spycatcher.

The development came one day after the memoirs of former SIS officer, Mr Peter Wright, were on sale in Australia to an enthusiastic response. A British application to prevent such

publication until after the appeal was turned down.

Under the terms of yesterday's order, the Government must file submissions in the High Court by mid-December. Mr Wright and Heinemann Australia, its publisher, must file theirs by February.

The appeal is likely to be heard over some 24 days, later in the year. But the court warned that the leave to appeal

could still be withdrawn if circumstances changed.

Derbyshire county council's campaign to stop Spycatcher in its libraries began in the High Court yesterday. It applied to Justice Knox to vary the injunction banning newspapers from publishing extracts from the book, upheld on July 30 by the House of Lords, pending the Attorney General's claim for a permanent order.

## Fifth TV channel study to be ordered

By Raymond Smiddy

FEASIBILITY studies are to be commissioned into the technical and financial prospects of a fifth television channel and microwave programme distribution (MVDS).

The Trade and Industry Department and the Home Office have asked several consultants to submit proposals for an MVDS study.

MVDS - multi-point video distribution system - is capable of transmitting about 10 channels over a radius of several miles. The study on a fifth channel is to be undertaken by the DTI and the Home Office in collaboration with the BBC, the Independent Broadcasting Authority and other interested parties.

Ministers from both departments emphasised yesterday that the studies were intended to give an up-to-date assessment of the technical options. No decisions have been taken to authorise such services or make spectrum available for them.

The Government would not rush any decision on the matter until first considering carefully the possible impact on existing and prospective services including the terrestrial broadcast, DBS (direct broadcast) and cable, the DTI said yesterday.

Mr Michael Cheekland, BBC director general, said yesterday he believed that subscription television was a viable option for funding new services.

It was proposed to use BBC 2 transmitters after regular programmes were over to broadcast a night-hour-long special news and feature service for doctors.

## Nato frigate indecision attacked

By David Buchan

THE GOVERNMENT'S indecision over joining in the building of a common Nato frigate was attacked yesterday.

It was jeopardising the money and effort UK industry had put into the international consortium to design and produce the so-called NFR-90 ship said Mr Brian Outwaite, chief executive of Supermarine Consortium, a nine-company group formed to represent UK industrial interests in the £100m project.

It seems likely the UK will sign the NFR-90 movement next week but the Defence Ministry has been deeply divided on the timing of development of the frigate and associated weaponry.

Because of this the Treasury has been baulking at paying its 28m share of the costs of the project definition stage being launched next week.

## Saatchi carries out further rationalisation

By Fiona McEwan

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, the advertising agency, has taken a further step in rationalising its global networks with the announcement that its London agency, Portland, is to become an independent affiliate of its newly-formed group Backer Spielvogel Bates Worldwide.

This gives Portland, the UK's third largest advertising agency, an international and full access to the BSBW's 104 offices around the world.

The company has already rearranged its advertising sales into two divisions and it pooled its public relations operations into one network.

## Schools policy 'unlawful'

By Michael Dixon, Education Correspondent

BIRMINGHAM council is acting unlawfully under the Sex Discrimination Act in providing only about half as many places for girls as for boys in the city's six grammar schools, the High Court ruled yesterday.

But Mr Justice McCallough did not order the council to change admissions policy for the voluntary-aided schools, which have 210 places for girls and 390 for boys, saying the council could be relied on to redress the balance.

The council is considering an appeal, but the Equal Opportunities Commission, which brought the action, nevertheless hailed the ruling as a "test case victory."

## College funding to be increased by 9%

POLYTECHNICS and other colleges awarding degrees are to have a 9 per cent increase in funds for 1988-89, Mr Kenneth Baker, Education Secretary, said yesterday. Funding will rise from £716.5m to £781m.

Recruitment of students to such colleges in the past academic year had been 6.5 per cent above target.

## Ronson charged on eight offences

BY RAYMOND HUGHES, LAW COURTS CORRESPONDENT

MR GERALD RONSON, chairman of the Heron Corporation, the UK's second largest private company, appeared at Bow Street magistrates court in London yesterday on eight charges arising out of the Guinness affair.

The charges include two alleging the theft of £2.875m and £4.8m (£2.8m) from Guinness. Mr Ronson was remanded until November 6 on £500,000 bail. Bail was granted on two securities of £250,000. They were given by Mr Trevor Chinn, of Phillips Charles, Kensington, London, who holds a senior position in the Lex Group, and Mr Harvey Soering, of Cavendish Avenue, St Johns Wood, London, who was described in court as a senior partner of a well-known firm of estate agents.

Mr Ronson was ordered to surrender his passport to the police. If he wants to go abroad he must apply for its return 48 hours before departure, giving details of the date and time of departure, the reason for travel, the destination and return date. The passport has to be returned to the police within 24 hours of his return to the UK.

Mr Ronson, accompanied by his barrister, Mr Tim Cassel,



Gerald Ronson arriving at Bow Street magistrates' court

and solicitor, Lord Mischon, refused to speak to journalists as he left the court.

Mr Victor Temple, prosecuting, said said Mr Ronson currently faced eight charges. These alleged he:

1. Dishonestly and with a view to gain for Heron Management, falsified an invoice by making an entry which was or might have been misleading, false or

deceptive in that it purported to show that £2.875m was due from Guinness to Heron Management for services rendered.

2. Procured the execution of a valuable security, a document from Guinness authorising the payment of £2.875m to Heron Trust Corporation by deception, by falsely representing that Heron Management had rendered services to Guinness gen-

erally valued at £2.875m.

3. Stole £2.875m from Guinness.
4. Falsified an invoice purporting to show that £4.8m was due from Guinness to Pima Service Corporation for professional advice provided in connection with the Distillers acquisition.
5. Procured a document from Guinness authorising the payment of £4.8m to Pima Savings by deception by falsely representing that Pima Service Corporation had provided professional advice for Guinness.
6. Stole £4.8m from Guinness.
7. Conspired to create a false market in Guinness shares.
8. At a time when companies in the Heron group were acquiring or proposing to acquire Guinness shares, aided and abetted the giving by Guinness of financial assistance (an indemnity in respect of all losses that might arise out of the purchase and subsequent holding of Guinness shares and an agreement to pay a fee if the Guinness bid for Distillers was successful) for the purpose of that acquisition by H. H. Investment Trading Ltd and National Insurance and Guarantee Corporation Ltd, companies in the Heron group.

## How law defines theft and appropriation

BY A.H. HERMANN, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

ONE should not be unduly impressed by the great number of the new criminal charges made in the Guinness case, explains Mr Ernest Saunders, who is charged against Mr Gerald Ronson. They are greatly inflated by listing individual acts under several legal headings. Thus the first charge against Mr Saunders, of false accounting, dishonest payment and stealing all relate to the same operation in which Heron Trust was paid £2.875m to buy Guinness shares.

Mr Saunders says that the one big scheme to jock up the price of Guinness shares to make them more attractive to investors invited to take them in exchange for Distillers shares. Everyone will readily accept that this was an impermissible manipulation of the market and a fraud on investors, though not everybody on either side of the Atlantic feels innocent enough to throw the stone.

What is somewhat confusing is that individual steps in this fraudulent scheme are described as theft. It does not correspond with the ordinary, non-legal understanding of the term. This also explains Mr Saunders's loud protest, when leaving court, that he did not put his hand in the till to enrich himself.

One normally thinks of a thief as someone who takes another's property for his own gain. This may be very close to the classic definition of theft in 'common-law' codes but is far from the rather obscure meaning which 'theft' has in English law.

Section 1 of the 1968 Theft Act says: 'A person is guilty of theft if he dishonestly appropriates property belonging to another with the intent of permanently depriving the other of it.'

But this is not the end of it. Mr Saunders's protestation that nothing he did made him any richer is of little significance. Section 1(2) of the act says it does not matter whether the 'appropriation' is made for the thief's own gain or benefit.

What then is appropriation? The act says it is any assumption of the rights of another. Paying for the purchase of the company's own shares is, on the part of a single director, assumption of rights which the company can exercise only by a special resolution.

Mr Saunders is on weak ground here even if he could claim the payment was allowed because it was in the language of Section 153 of the Companies Act 1985 'part of a wider scheme' and made 'in good faith in the interest of the company'.

Should he claim it was not his intention that the company should permanently lose the monies he paid out, but expected them to come back, possibly with a profit, he would come up against Section 6 of the Theft Act, which does not allow such defence if there was an intention to treat the money as his own to dispose of regardless of the other's rights.

Finally, to be guilty of theft it must be shown that what he did,

he did 'dishonestly'. Under Section 2 of the act the 'appropriation' of the monies paid out would not be dishonest if he acted 'in the belief that he has a law the right to deprive the other of (the property) on behalf of himself or of a third person.' The defence under this provision will depend heavily on evidence about the legal advice on which the accused was acting.

However, the second leg of Section 2 may be more useful to the accused in the Guinness affair. It excludes dishonesty, and consequently theft, if the perpetrator 'appropriated the property in the belief that he would have the other's consent if the other knew of the appropriation and the circumstances of it' - in other words, that Guinness shareholders would have approved if they had known.

In short, the accusation of theft will be easier to defend than the manipulation of the market to the detriment of Distillers shareholders and management.

## Scant sympathy for the man in the dock

BY PAUL CHEESEBRIGHT

ONE OF Mrs Thatcher's favourite businessmen is in the dock over his role in the Guinness affair. The Gerald Ronson who has won prime ministerial esteem, however, is not the man who received, as Mrs Thatcher paid back, £2.8m for jock up the Guinness share price.

This is not to suggest that the role played by Mr Ronson in the Guinness Distillers takeover bid was a sudden flight of fancy on his part. After all, he had been involved in numerous takeover fights before, usually coming second at a profit and he evidently drove a hard bargain when he negotiated the terms of his support for Guinness.

But it is possible to suggest that there are several Mr Ronsons, each different according to the perception of the person with whom he has been dealing. He is a Thatcher sort of person because he embodies enterprise and respect for the property word, because he sticks to his word, he is seen as generous because of his charitable works. Yet he is regarded with deep suspicion in the City.

It is the City Ronson who is in trouble and yesterday there was scant sympathy for his plight. As one stockbroker put it: 'The City's interpretation of Ronson is that he is a very shrewd, very hot, not a nice man. Full stop.'

The Property Ronson comes through in another way, however. One property specialist, who has been sitting opposite Mr Ronson at the negotiating table on and off for years, explained: 'He's a very decisive man. He has an incredible perception of market trends - he'll go into areas where others fear to tread and he's right more than 50 per cent of the time.'

He drives a hard bargain. He hates over-paying and he never under-sells,' he added.

It is, of course, 'incredible perception' and that hardness which have been behind the growth of Heron Corporation into both the second largest private company in Britain after the City and a significant force in the international property and financial services markets.

The latest accounts show shareholders' funds at Heron International of £500m and pre-tax profits of £50.1m on a turnover of £1.11m for the year to March 1987. That has been built up over 30 years - an average annual compound growth rate of 28 per cent. At the root of it has been property.

Although Heron is 60 per cent owned by a charitable foundation, the Ronson family has set up, Mr Ronson himself calls the shots at Heron International. Because the group has remained private he has inevitably had an independence denied to most chiefs of quoted companies, giving him the freedom to play the stock market.

Publicised deals include his attempt to take over Associated Communications Corporation, his purchase of a pivotal stake in Debenhams during the takeover bid by Burton and more recently the accumulation of a stake in Chrivis.

One banker commented: 'It is a pity he never went public because that might have instilled

a greater sense of public accountability.'

It is at this point that Property Ronson and City Ronson begin to merge. The success of the first has given power to the second but at the same time rendered the second dealing unnecessary. Heron International has done well enough in its main lines of business to avoid having to resort to the market. Mr Ronson paid himself up to £200,000 a year and he wanted more, no doubt he could have had it.

He did it (the Guinness share price support buying) not because he needed any money but because he cannot resist a deal. He is the sort of man who likes to feel he is at the centre of things, playing his cards and so on, said a banker.

Others agreed, while noting a certain reluctance among some of the major houses to deal with him and suggesting that this was why his dealing was linked to Mr Tony Farnes, an independent operator now held in Los Angeles on charges of false accounting.

## Clay Harris reports on the City's new circumspect attitude to takeovers

## Softly, softly as the dust settles

NEARLY a year after the first serious questions began to be asked about the conduct of the bitterly contested battle in which Guinness won control of Distillers, the City's attitude to the takeover is circumspect.

The exposure of practices, some admitted and some only alleged, has been painful even to bankers and stockbrokers completely unconnected with the Guinness bid.

As a necessary cleansing of an atmosphere which had been increasingly soured by aggression and the flouting of the spirit, if not always the letter, of the City's self-regulatory system. The head of one corporate finance department said yesterday that the Distillers bid would be seen as 'the high point of overt aggressiveness.'

After Guinness, and coincidental insider trading scandals, the rule is safety first. Statesmen are considered with cooler eyes, but not - most insist - at the expense of innovation.

It is also undeniable that the arrest and levelling of criminal charges against respected and main-line City figures has a deterrent effect.

Regardless of the eventual outcome of court cases, many individuals clearly feel that more is now at stake than the chance of a rebuke by the Takeover Panel.

The general view, however, is

that Guinness by itself has not had a lasting effect on the number of contested takeovers launched or won. If the mood has changed against hostile bids, by no means a watertight rule, it is the City's attitude to the takeover which has changed.

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## Poll tax 'will sharpen inner city problems'

By Ivor Owen

GOVERNMENT proposals for replacing domestic rates with a poll tax and instituting a uniform business rate will intensify problems faced by many run-down English inner cities, Mr Jack Cunningham, Labour's shadow Environment Secretary, claims today.

In a statement issued from Labour's headquarters, he contends that analysis of figures obtained from the Department of the Environment has produced results which 'make a mockery' of the pledge given by the Prime Minister immediately after the June general election to do more for the inner cities.

Mr Cunningham asserts that Westminster Council is set to lose more than £400m and the City of London even more. Councils 'in crisis', such as the London Borough of Camden, would be in an even worse position through the introduction of a uniform business rate.

A 'league table' based on comparing an estimate of the non-domestic rate received by local authorities in the current financial year and assumptions made about the impact of the Government's rate reform proposals shows that London councils would all suffer a loss of rate income.

## Owen faces challenge from party rivals

BY IVOR OWEN

SUPPORTERS of Mr Robert Maclennan, still battling to assert his authority as leader of the Social Democrats, are preparing themselves for a fresh attempt to rein back Dr David Owen, the party's former leader.

They have expressed growing resentment over his success in maintaining a prominent position on the national stage and using his influence over the party's main financial backers to bolster his campaign to preserve the Social Democrats as a separate entity, whatever the outcome of the merger talks which the current leadership is conducting with the Liberals.

Mrs Shirley Williams, SDP president, whose antagonism

towards Dr Owen has already been displayed in public, will face him next week with the charge that he is pursuing a course of conduct which characterised the internal squabbles of the Labour Party in the 1950s, when the Bevanites were accused of forming a party within a party.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, took a sideways at Dr Owen yesterday when he told a Liberal gathering in Torquay that he is sure the great majority of Liberals and Social Democrats will approve the outcome of the merger negotiations.

He said it was a lot easier to found a party on no grassroots organisation, no regard for democratic consultation or de-

cision, no agreed policy priorities - a few rich people to sign the cheques and banks of computers to conduct direct mailing shots.

In words clearly directed at Dr Owen, he said such an organisation would 'enjoy the characteristics not so much of a political party as of a fan club.'

Speaking on Channel 4 television last night Mr Maclennan suggested that a new merged party should choose to call itself 'The Democrats'. He said the full title would be 'The Democratic Union of Social Democratic and Liberal Parties.'

## Food processing machinery plant closes

APV BAKER, the leading UK producer of food processing equipment, is closing one of the two factories in its Rose Forgive packaging machinery division.

The plant, at Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, employs 200. APV Baker said it hoped about 100 employees at the Gainsborough site would be offered jobs in other group factories.

The company said it was cut-

ting manufacturing costs to meet levels of demand for Rose Forgive products, which include machinery used in making packaging for bread, confectionery and pharmaceuticals.

The other Rose Forgive site is at Leeds, West Yorkshire. This plant, which employs 230, is more modern than the Gainsborough plant and has more space for expansion.

APV Baker was formed in

March by a merger between APV, a manufacturer of machinery used for making foods from a liquid base, such as dairy products, and Baker Perkins, which specialises in machinery for producing dry foods.

Rose Forgive, which up to now has acted as an independent company, is being merged with the former Baker Perkins process machinery business.



**ICI manufactures in 40 countries and sells to over 150**



## CAA chairman warns of curbs on air traffic

By MICHAEL DODD, AEROSPACE CORRESPONDENT

AIR TRAFFIC may need to be limited if the present big rises in volume continue, Mr Christopher Tugendhat, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, warned yesterday.

Mr Tugendhat said the timing of such restriction would depend on "how quickly technology evolves and on the environmental restraints placed on airport operations."

He told the Guild of Air Traffic Controllers' conference, Concorde 87 International, at Slough in Berkshire that air traffic had risen by 6 per cent this year, with increases at some peak times of more than 30 per cent over last year, especially in the London area.

In the 12 months to May 31, for example, the London Air Traffic Control Centre had handled 983,000 aircraft movements compared with 926,000 the previous year.

While there had been "much inaccurate speculation," Mr Tugendhat admitted there had been problems with air traffic control this summer.

"Many of these would have been coped with as a matter of routine in years past, but now, when high levels of traffic are sustained over a large part of the operating day, any failure, even quite a small one, impacts on our handling capability," he

said.

To ease the strain, the authority had already introduced a system of flow control limiting the volume of traffic handled during some peak periods.

It was also updating and increasing available equipment, spending £200m over the next five years, including replacing the IBM 9080D computer at the London Air Traffic Control Centre.

A central control function was also being introduced, bringing together the approach control facilities for Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and the City Airport.

Mr Tugendhat stressed that any system had a finite capacity. UK airspace was relatively small and had many conflicting demands on its use. The improvements the authority was able to offer were "in reality only able to contain the increases rather than outpace them."

The £32m airport built in London's Docklands as a private venture by John Mowlem, the construction company, has been granted an operating licence by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Operations start on October 26. The airport is to be formally opened by the Queen on November 5.

## Business sponsorship 'crucial' to wildlife

By Ralph Atkins

BUSINESS sponsorship was crucial for the conservation of the UK's wildlife, Sir David Attenborough, chairman of the British Wildlife Appeal, told industrialists yesterday.

At a conference organised by the Central Electricity Generating Board, he said that £5m has been raised by the appeal since it was launched in 1985 with a £1m target.

The funds are being used to save conservation areas and threatened species of wildlife in the UK.

The CEGB announced at the conference, attended by representatives of energy companies, banking and marketing, that it was providing £120,000 to sponsor conservation projects. That is in addition to its contribution to the appeal and will finance schemes including the protection of butterflies in Somerset and little terns in Kent.

Lord Marshall, chairman, said: "We believe that our sponsorship programme is an excellent way far as to return something to the environment."

Since 1985 about £2m has been raised by companies for specific wildlife conservation schemes organised by the World Wildlife Fund acting as brokers between industry and government.

Yesterday Mr Colin Moylan, Environment Under-Secretary, said the potential for further sponsorship was considerable. He described the CEGB plans as "another excellent example of business and conservation interests working together in a constructive and mutually beneficial way."

## CBI CITY/INDUSTRY TASK FORCE REPORT

# Financial markets exonerated from failings

BY TERRY DODSWORTH

BEHIND THE Confederation of British Industry report on industry and the City, published yesterday, lies the perennial anxiety about the impact of short-term investor decisions on long-term corporate planning. It is an old argument and one which has been exhaustively investigated before. But a year ago, in the atmosphere of booming financial markets and heated takeover activity, the question had assumed a new urgency for industrialists who felt they were becoming pawns in a financial game over which they had no control.

The CBI report points out that the economic climate has changed significantly since then. Takeover activity has diminished, industrialists are more optimistic about their growth prospects and the City is beginning to show signs of some structural problems of its own. The issue now, says the report, is thus more about how all participants in the economy can harness themselves to the expansion of activity.

The challenge is to build on this (economic growth) and provide a climate in which companies can invest for the future with the active co-operation of their shareholders and bankers," it says.

This change in the economic background may have contributed to the unanimity of the conclusions and recommendations which came out of the panel. Drawn from industry and City, from companies that had been bid targets and those which had been predators, the committee was nevertheless able to agree on all the significant issues it examined. Broadly speaking, the panel exonerated the City from serious failings in dealings with its industrial clients.

The Task Force found no evidence to link attitudes of the City directly to the long run de-

cline of the nation's manufacturing sector - nor to its resurgence in recent years. Rather, it found that many commonly-held perceptions were simply not supported by the available facts.

Among its conclusions were:

● The failure of companies to give sufficient weight to long-term development arises mainly from underlying economic and political factors, including inadequate profitability, rather than to City pressures.

● Most financial institutions are long-term investors.

● There is no general shortage of funds for good small or high-risk ventures, though financing costs are sometimes high.

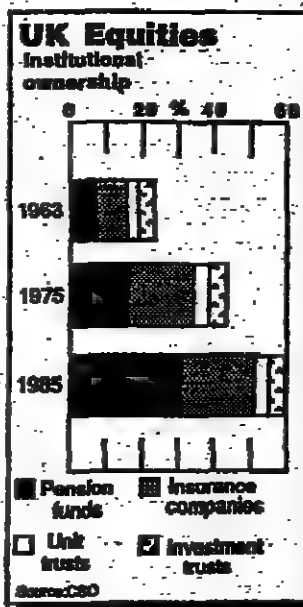
● The cost of City facilities has fallen since Big Bang, as competitive pressures have had their effect.

● Expenditure by UK companies as a whole on mergers and acquisitions is much less than that on organic growth through investment.

Managers of companies under threat of takeover do not defer investments to enhance their current earnings.

The report concludes that the heart of the problem between the City and its industrial clients is one of communication. This gap is less in countries such as West Germany, France and Japan, which maintain close relationships between the banks and industry, it says. But the UK could improve the present situation by a mixture of new initiatives aimed at keeping investors better informed and strengthening institutional links between the investment community and the industrial sector.

Investing in Britain's Future. Report of the CBI City/Industry Task Force, will be debated at the CBI conference later this year. It is available from the CBI, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU, £11 for members and £15 for non-members.



## Calmer approach to mergers and acquisitions urged as measure to increase understanding

THE CBI's main recommendations for action to increase understanding between the City and industry are based on suggestions for improvements in communications and for encouraging a "calmer and more rational" approach to mergers and acquisitions.

The recommendations include:

● Companies should organise themselves efficiently in designating responsibility for carrying out investor relations. Frequently this is the specific responsibility of chairman, though they are likely, where appropriate, to delegate this to their chief executives.

● Companies must make more effort to keep the market informed about their longer term

strategic intentions and in particular their spending on research and development, as well as training and other aspects of innovation. The report comes down against statutory disclosure of R&D spending, but supports a new accounting rule to enforce it in all except a few cases.

● The task force recommends a range of items which should be included in company reports, including a statement of company objectives, a discussion of the means of achieving these targets, details of the business and any recent changes in activity.

● Companies should publish in their annual reports the names of brokers from whom private investors could obtain elaboration and analysis.

● City institutions should support more training for analysts working in the securities industry. The quality of analysts needs to be improved, the report says.

● The task force recommends greater care in choosing non-executive directors; their independence of mind can help to give credibility among investors, it says.

● Companies should examine their pension fund trustees' arrangements and ensure trustees exercise their responsibilities as shareholders, as well as towards their members and pensioners.

● The CBI should ensure a continuing dialogue nationally on matters of concern between the

financial sector and industry.

● The Department of Trade and Industry and the Takeover Panel should seek to ensure the new arrangements on acquisition activity involve effective surveillance of share dealing and have intermediate sanctions between censure and delisting.

● On competition policy, the task force recommends greater predictability in referrals and increased speed in dealing with investigations if necessary.

● The committee also draws attention to issues that require further attention. It suggests, for example, that capital gains tax regime might be amended to encourage holding of shares for longer periods; the role of the

press and the media, and their influence on share prices, should be examined, probably by the Press Council; institutional investors should develop better channels for conveying concern about management performance; the regulations on disclosure of beneficial holdings should be strengthened; and there should be tighter rules for merger and takeover accounting.

Finally, the report adds: "This report represents a beginning, not an end. There are real issues of concern between the two sectors and it is important to have in shape the proper institutional framework for views to be expressed and appropriate action recommended."

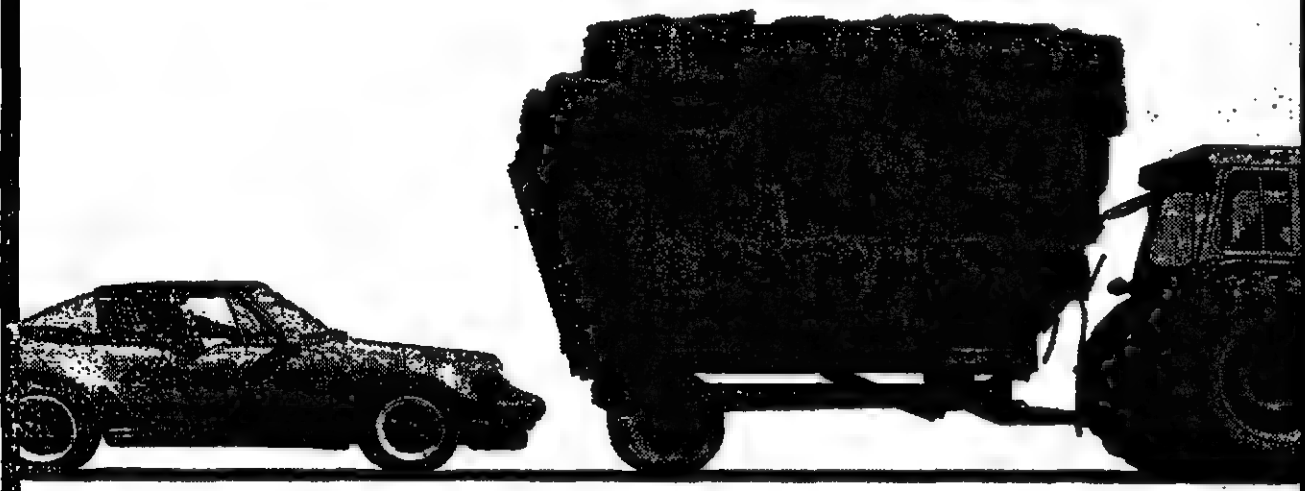
## Wardair increases flights

By MICHAEL DODD

WARDAIR, a Canadian independent airline, is taking advantage of the more liberal Anglo-Canadian air agreement reached a few weeks ago to increase scheduled services. The airline, which launched

scheduled flights to Gatwick, Manchester and Prestwick last year, plans to operate scheduled flights between Toronto and Stansted, Birmingham, Cardiff, Leeds, Bradford and Newcastle, starting next spring.

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## Short-termism found to be 'a problem of perception'

THE ISSUE that looked as though it would be the subject of controversy in the CBI's investigation was that of "short-termism" - the notion that industry is neglecting its long-term investment needs because of the City's preoccupation with short-term profit performance.

This idea reached a crescendo in the takeover fever of last year, with the added criticism that the concentration of shareholdings in the hands of institutional investors was intensifying the pressures.

The report finds that fear of short-termism is more a problem of perception than of fact. It concludes that the UK does have a significant weakness in its investment record, but relates this more to the cost of capital and uncertainty surrounding a company's prospects in its chosen markets than to the financial markets.

On the specific issue of takeovers, a survey of CBI companies concluded that fear of acquisition was not an important factor in short-termism to pursue short-term goals.

Indeed, out of 100 member groups which responded to the

survey, not one agreed that takeover threats had been of "major significance" in influencing strategic investment decisions.

First, it says, attention to current year's results and price-earnings multiples does not constitute evidence that in-

vestors are taking too short a view. Short-term profitability, it argues, is more often than not associated with good long-term performance; and the price-earnings ratio can be viewed as a long-sighted measure since share prices ought to reflect the expected value of all future cash flows.

Second, it says there is no clear evidence that the shift towards institutional ownership of shares has caused more preoccupation with the short term.

The rate at which stocks and shares are turned over has increased, but trading activity, the report argues, provides "an essential degree of liquidity," and the different institutions - pension funds, life assurance, unit trusts and so on - have highly variable behaviour patterns.

The report concludes: "The financial institutions, particularly pension funds and insurance companies, have a clear interest in the long term performance of the shares they hold. As large holders of portfolios, it is likely that they are in a better position to make a realistic and informed assessment of a company's activities."

## Constraints on long-term investment

% Respondents mentioning

	Of major significance	Significant	Not significant
Shortage of capital	5	10	85
Cost of capital and/or fear of an inadequate rate of return	24	53	23
Exchange rate uncertainties	2	26	72
A lack of confidence in market prospects	6	36	58
Weakness in your share price or rating	7	34	59
Fear of takeover	6	12	82
Pressure from financial institutions/analysts	4	19	77

Source: CBI survey of UK company Chief Executives, 1987

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## BUSINESS LAW

## Company marriage and manslaughter

By A. H. Hermann, Legal Correspondent

WHOMEVER knows of any just impediment why these should not be joined together, speak now or forever hold your peace. This wise and practical proclamation should be considered by Mr Peter Sutherland, the EC Commissioner for Competition, before he decides to dissolve marriages between companies which are not to the Commission's liking.

He made his threats in a mood of frustration over the failure to obtain, after a campaign lasting 14 years, the member government approval for preliminary control of mergers. The Commission's proposal will be discussed again by government representatives on November 30, but there is no hope that it will be approved.

Taking Mr Sutherland seriously, as one should, obliged me to have another look at his secret weapon, the 1972 Continental Case decision of the European Court. Overruling the strongest possible contrary opinion of its Advocate General, a court consisting of only five judges (none from the UK, the Irish Republic or Denmark), concluded that Article 86 of the EC Treaty, prohibiting abuse of dominant position, should be interpreted as prohibiting any increase of market power by "dominant companies" still facing effective competition.

Neither the Commission nor the Court seemed to be concerned over such detail as that a com-

pany still facing effective competition cannot be termed dominant and does not therefore fall under Article 86 of the Treaty.

Contradicting accepted academic opinion as well as that of its own Advocate General, the court refused to attribute any significance to the fact that merger control provisions of the European Coal and Steel Treaty were deliberately omitted from the EC Treaty. This omission formed the basis on which the UK and other governments succeeded to the EC Treaty later on.

The Court said that as Article 86 of the EC Treaty prohibits cartels and declares restrictive agreements to be invalid, companies must not be allowed to achieve the same by means of a merger and Article 86 should be interpreted accordingly. However, Article 86 provides for exemptions of agreements and practices which though anti-competitive, have other benefits, and Article 86 does not it was never designed to control mergers and is explicitly aimed against discriminatory practices or limitation of production and development to the prejudice of consumers.

Rewriting the Treaty, the five judges held that Article 86 must be interpreted as prohibiting market dominance independent of competition, even if achieved by an intentional increase in market power. In this way the court established power for the Commission to control mergers

without providing for exceptions in the case of mergers which are beneficial and which may be necessary to enable competition on the world market. Indeed, this weapon is so blunt that the Commission did not dare to use it so far.

The case against allowing the Commission to use this *per se* rule obtained decision of the European Court, is even stronger than that against giving it the merger control regulation. In any case, the Commission is a political organ enmeshed in the contradictions of protectionist and competition policies. To give it control over European mergers would only lead to great uncertainty.

Moreover, Brussels decisions on mergers would have a very different effect in countries like France and Germany, which have an effective system of backroom co-ordination of industry and in the UK where companies are fiercely independent. Positive decisions could also interfere greatly with internal competition systems of member states, particularly since a recent decision (in Case 249/85) the European Court held that a Commission's decision must be obeyed by national authorities and national courts even if its implementation is clearly contrary to national competition law.

Legal niceties apart, no regulation and no decision of the court can bridge the wide gap existing between those member

states which want to protect the internal market of a "little Europe" and those who are interested in restructuring industry so that it could compete with the US and Japan on the world market. For this reason the Commission should be asked to turn its mind to the long-term task of harmonising competition policies of member states. And its threatened use of the *Continental Can* decision should be prevented by a suitable addition to Regulation 17/82 defining the Commission's powers in competition matters.

Turning now to another confused issue of legal policy, I would say that the call for charging Townsend Ferries with manslaughter is utterly misguided; not because a criminal prosecution of a company would be impossible, but because it is highly undesirable.

The division between civil and criminal law is not as hard and fast as the fact that different courts are involved suggests. Gross negligence - or recklessness - can amount to a "guilty mind" in the same way as malice. Can a company have a guilty mind? Well, they say that it can be deemed to have it vitally, through the person or persons acting on its behalf - the company's *alter ego*. I do not like such artificial constructions, but that is beside the point.

On the other hand, it is difficult to see why some lawyers

think that a criminal prosecution of a company is impossible because it cannot be sent to prison. There are other forms of punishment readily available; one could even think of substituting dissolution of the company for a death penalty and suspension of its activities for the time an individual offender would have to spend in prison.

A more serious objection is of a procedural nature. How can a company defend itself when those who normally speak on its behalf have a conflicting interest to show that it is not them, but the company, who is guilty of the offence. However, even this objection could be overcome by appointing an outsider as curator of the company's interests and of its defence in criminal proceedings. A criminal prosecution of a company is in principle possible, but it appears to be against the most basic aims of legal policy.

The first of these is to avoid punishing innocents. A company consists, according to the conventional view, of its shareholders and, according to a more modern and more realistic view, also of its employees. In a large company, none of the shareholders and only a very few of its employees will be guilty of the offence attributed to the company; but they would all be hit by any punishment of the company.

Civil damages, even punitive damages, are a different matter: even if not re-

sponsible for the wrongdoing, the shareholders and employees might have profited from it. In such a case English courts rightly held that it is only fair that those responsible should bear the consequences of exemplary damages. The danger that a careless management might have endangered their dividends or employment prospects will provide an incentive for keeping it on its toes.

Of even greater practical importance is the second aim of legal policy, to punish the guilty in order to deter them and others from repeating the offence. The only people who can be usefully deterred are those whose actions or omissions constitute the evil deed. Several persons may share the responsibility, they may be members of a board or executive committee, for example, or of a vertical line of command. It is these people, responsible for the operation of the company to whom should be addressed the penal deterrent - not the mass of anonymous and uninvolved employees and shareholders.

The call for a criminal prosecution of the shipping company may deflect attention from those really responsible and this would be to the detriment of both sailors and passengers' safety; nor does the interest of victims require a dramatization of the case by a criminal prosecution of the company: civil courts have adequate power for awarding punitive damages.

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FINANCIAL TIMES  
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## UK ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY-Indices of industrial production, manufacturing output (1980=100); engineering orders (1980=100); retail sales volume (1980=100); retail sales value (1980=100); registered unemployment (excluding school leavers) and retired vacancies (2000). All seasonally adjusted.

	Ind. prod.	Mfg. output	Eng. orders	Retail vol.	Retail value	Unemp.	Ret. vac.
1986							
1st qtr.	108.1	108.2	97	115.3	148.8	11.71	108.5
2nd qtr.	108.9	108.2	97	121.3	154.9	11.72	108.6
3rd qtr.	109.2	108.2	97	121.3	154.9	11.72	108.6
4th qtr.	111.1	107.5	96	120.5	154.5	11.73	113.0
1987							
1st qtr.	112.3	107.7	94	126.4	157.8	11.77	114.4
2nd qtr.	112.0	106.7	92	125.3	156.8	11.78	114.1
3rd qtr.	112.7	106.9	96	127.9	154.5	11.80	117.1
4th qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
1988							
1st qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
2nd qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
3rd qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
4th qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
1989							
1st qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
2nd qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
3rd qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6
4th qtr.	112.0	106.9	96	125.1	154.5	11.81	116.6

OUTPUT-By market sector: consumer goods, investment goods, intermediate goods (materials and fuels); engineering building, metal manufacture, textiles, leather and clothing (1980=100); housing starts (2000, monthly average).

	Consumer goods	Investment goods	Intermediate goods	Eng. output	Metal mfg.	Textiles	Housing starts
1986							
1st qtr.	108.1	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2
2nd qtr.	108.9	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2
3rd qtr.	109.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2
4th qtr.	111.1	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5
1987							
1st qtr.	112.3	107.7	107.7	107.7	107.7	107.7	107.7
2nd qtr.	112.0	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7
3rd qtr.	112.7	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
4th qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
1988							
1st qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
2nd qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
3rd qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
4th qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
1989							
1st qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
2nd qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
3rd qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
4th qtr.	112.0	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9

EXTERNAL TRADE-Indices of export and import volume (1980=100); visible balance; current balance (2000); oil balance (2000); terms of trade (1980=100); official reserves.

	Export volume	Import volume	Visible balance	Current balance	Oil balance	Terms of trade	Reserve (2000)
1986							
1st qtr.	117.2	104.9	-127	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
2nd qtr.	121.9	104.1	-118	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
3rd qtr.	122.8	104.1	-118	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
4th qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
1987							
1st qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
2nd qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
3rd qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
4th qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
1988							
1st qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
2nd qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
3rd qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
4th qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
1989							
1st qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
2nd qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
3rd qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75
4th qtr.	126.5	104.1	-122	-100	-1,000	102.5	12.75

FINANCIAL-Money supply M0, M1 and M2 (three months' growth at annual rate); bank sterling lending to private sector; building societies' net lending; consumer credit; all seasonally adjusted. Clearing Bank base rate (end period).

	M0 %	M1 %	M2 %	Bank lending	Building societies	Consumer credit	Base rate
1986							
1st qtr.	4.1	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
2nd qtr.	4.1	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
3rd qtr.	4.1	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
4th qtr.	7.9	11.5	14.1	+10,516	2,616	+444	11.00
1987							
1st qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
2nd qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
3rd qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
4th qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
1988							
1st qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
2nd qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
3rd qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
4th qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
1989							
1st qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
2nd qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
3rd qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00
4th qtr.	1.3	24.4	18.2	+4,200	2,200	+600	11.00

INFLATION-Indices of earnings (Jan 1980=100); basic materials and fuels; wholesale prices of manufactured products (1980=100); retail prices and food prices (Jan 1980=100); British commodity index (Sept 1981=100); trade weighted value of sterling (1970=100).

	Earnings	Basic materials	Fuels	Wholesale prices	Retail prices	Food prices	Commodity index	Trade weighted value
1986								
1st qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
2nd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
3rd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
4th qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
1987								
1st qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
2nd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
3rd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
4th qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
1988								
1st qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
2nd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
3rd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
4th qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
1989								
1st qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
2nd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
3rd qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1
4th qtr.	178.1	122.4	142.3	92.5	92.5	1,000	73.1	73.1

(Not seasonally adjusted)

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## MANAGEMENT: Marketing and Advertising

### US retailing

# Taking on the fickle shifts in fashion

Gordon Cramb on the significance of a changing marketplace

"LET'S MAKE IT in America" was the theme of a convention which drew several hundred US clothing producers to Ohio this summer. It was unusual in that it was organised not from within the ranks of rag trade manufacturers trying to drum up orders but by The Limited, the Columbus-based stores group which is one of their biggest sources of potential new business.

The Limited is the country's largest independent retailer of women's fashions, operating through some 2,800 stores which it is now opening at a rate of around 400 a year. Although towards the upper end of the mass market its sourcing relies more than half on Asia. This and much else could change as the specialty apparel retailing sector goes through what its participants are starting to admit is a significant shift in what the American public wants to wear and where it gets it.

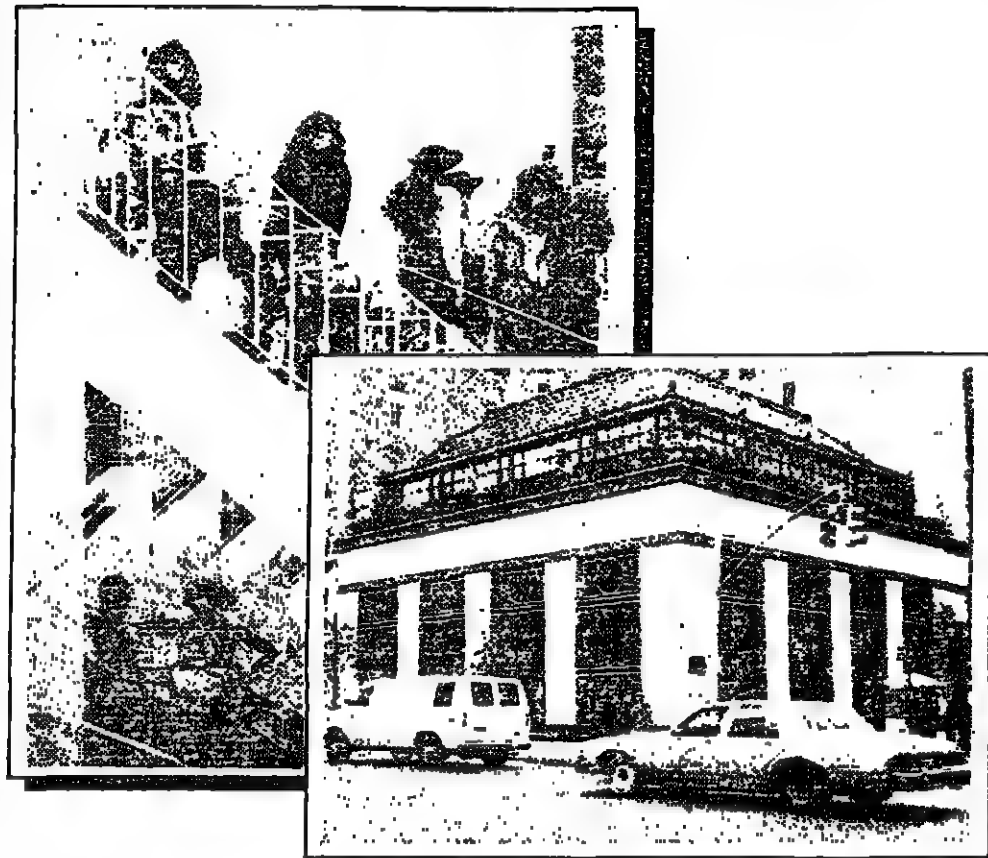
Monthly sales figures from the individual stores groups for September, out a week ago, were anxiously awaited but reassured no one. On a crude year-on-year basis the numbers looked fine. The Limited was showing 12 per cent growth in turnover to \$540.9m. But almost all of this came from adding outlets - stores open for a year or more showed a growth of just 1 per cent compared with 23 per cent in September 1986.

Economies of scale are still showing through handsomely, and the company was quick to point out that net income for the current year was expected to be a record as a percentage of sales.

Leslie Wexner, the chairman, while giving away little in terms of strategy, did concede at the same time that there was "an industry-wide fashion cycle change under way" which was dampening the expansion of demand within its established stores. "Customers are making a fashion transition," he added.

Quite what this will entail, few within the business are yet prepared to say. The Paris ready-to-wear collections for next spring, being unveiled over the next few days, are likely to confirm the shorter hemlines established in this month's Milan and London shows. Together with what is seen on the New York catwalks, the European events form a fairly clear outline from which US volume production trends are drawn.

Short skirts, reasonably well anticipated by the industry buyers, are not a problem - more so has been the absence recently of any other strong theme to spur shoppers. David Williamson, a retail sector analyst at the Hartford, Connecticut-based Advent, says consumer spending in stores across the US has been slowing for the first time in a few years. "Sales



The Limited store in New York - one of 2,800 in the US. The group, like others, is experiencing a fundamental change in the fashion cycle

are not disastrous, but consumers have been a little tight with their money since mid-June."

For investors in the clothing chains, this was enough to put an end to the exalted ratings which they had accorded the businesses. Wall Street last month held what the shops themselves would call a close-out, an end-of-season sale where lines are shifted at almost any price. This time they were lines of stock in companies like The Limited, which fell by more than a third, and The Gap, a 780-store casual clothing group which was more than halved in value.

That may not trouble the browsers of America's shopping

malls, but they may start to notice other changes as frontages are revamped for the coming seasons. First, there is likely to be a dilution of the truly faddish. The Gap's slowdown is believed to have had its most severe impact at its 75 or so shops which trade under the Banana Republic banner and are given over to safari-style garb.

Williamson describes these outlets as among "the more visually extreme" and now probably past their peak in appeal. This presents the company with more than the usual problems in adjusting to an altering marketplace. "Besides changing the merchandise in the store they would have to change the

store."

Second, competition is still increasing, both from the traditional department and chain stores which are deploying some of their financial resources in an attempt to shake off an often dowdy image, and from new entrants - not surprisingly, the most talked-about of these is Benetton.

In three years the Italian company has gone from a zero presence in the US to some 700 franchised stores, in a drive which has won admiration there as it has in Europe. Richard Winger, who advises on retailing strategy for the Boston Consulting Group, says its integrated approach - "something other peo-

ple have to try to come to grips with" - ought to prompt a third change in the clothing business as retailers experiment with in-house manufacturing.

The way to build from the fads into a stable business is to build backwards into manufacturing. At Benetton, the synchronised system that goes from the factory to the store essentially allows them to manufacture to order. In a sense, you become independent from fashions. You don't have to guess, you can just follow."

The Limited has been looking at this as one way of narrowing the lag time between placing orders and taking delivery - the shorter that period, the less exposed it is to the vagaries of the youth market. It went some of the way nine years ago when it bought Mast Industries, a huge sourcing operation which also supplies other retailers.

But in May this year the group devolved responsibility for domestic sourcing to its divisional store chiefs, leaving Mast operating entirely abroad. At the same time, analysts say the group's main energies are being devoted to a front-end diversification into menswear - generally a less profitable business although The Limited's management talent is undisputed and it can trade on a name which is both well known and usefully gender-neutral.

The Limited's Columbus trade fair in August coincided not only with Congressional moves to limit the rise in textile and clothing imports, but also with labour unrest in South Korea which gave the apparel industry a rare moment of discomfort over its reliance on Asia.

Korean stoppages hit companies like Reebok, which makes most of its sports shoes there, while the protectionist mood of Washington was being seen increasingly as at least requiring a show of interest in domestic suppliers.

On a volume basis, about 55 per cent of all garments sold in the US are imports, up in the last five years from only a fifth or so. In practice, the trend is not likely to be reversed. National quotas still leave room for shopping around among countries in the region, against which the North American industry is unable to compete on cost.

Domestic producers may gain modestly, though, from a long-term polarisation in retail demand which is detected by many industry watchers. At the upper end this is leading stores to invest more in high-priced private-label items exclusive to them, and over which they would want to exercise complete control. For these lines, lower-volume but more numerous, production bases closer to distribution points could aid flexibility.

### Eagle Star

## Insured with a message full of humour

Feona McEwan on the UK group's light-hearted approach to promotion



A much livelier image has been adopted by Eagle Star Insurance in its latest commercials, with comic actor Rowan Atkinson (right) portraying Goodness and other characters in the series

OF ALL THE humorous topics in all the world, insurance is hardly the favourite to invoke a smile, let alone a giggle. The grind of relentlessly shelling out the shekels for something you never see and with luck may never need, makes the business of selling insurance a veritable struggle.

But in the deregulatory climate in which insurance companies now operate in the UK, the battle for customers in a crowded marketplace is forcing traditionally uninspired companies to make their messages more upbeat and take risks (promotional speaking). In effect, the tone of promotional messages from insurance and other financial services is moving in the direction of the more experienced consumer goods companies and away from the stiffer approach of their past.

Take Eagle Star, the insurance offshoot of BAT Industries. This month the struggle to claw a niche for itself has taken it for the first time on to the small screen where it is attempting to parade itself in more winning light by dint of humour. Funny man Rowan Atkinson, he of the rubber face and wicked expressions, camps it up as, alternately, Pharaoh, Napoleon, Goodness, Captain Kidd.

The tone of the 53m campaign, which is national, is very much a departure for both client and agency. In common with many a City agency, St James's is not known for its innovative style in advertising, having concentrated on no-nonsense financial messages down the years, but the new competitive open-door market in which its clients now function has meant a change of tune.

One man steering the new approach is marketing director Mike Heath who was assigned to Eagle Star from BAT earlier this year, about the time Michael Butt, ex-Sedgwick Group, took over as the new chief executive of Eagle Star.

With his consumer goods background, Heath needed no telling that financial houses must

brand themselves first in order to set themselves apart before they can plug their products properly. First impressions revealed that the company had a strong position and reputation in general insurance but on the faster side of the business - life insurance, investment and pensions - the picture was weaker. The company had been a late entrant in 1985 into the unit trust market, for instance, and had been reshaping the business since then.

Most major competitors - and in this category Heath includes major banks, building societies, major composite insurers - are already using television, and despite the alarming media costs, it was time "to bite the bullet or we'd fall further behind." Historically, Eagle Star had used outdoor poster advertising, which is classically "reminder" advertising, says Heath. Press had been used for product advertising, allowing as it does scope for the necessary detail.

The idea behind television commercials, says Heath, "is to predispose people to do business with us. Hopefully they are amusing too." He underlines, too, the widely-felt on which in financial services marketing from passive to active. "Financial products have to be marketed now rather than simply made available."

The brief demanded something amusing, distinctive and original. The resulting campaign, shot mainly in black and white and with a cast of 200, is "a bold step," he says.

Each joke makes a point. Viewers learn that Napoleon, for instance, had "a glittering career... property all over the place until forced to retire with a drop in his standard of living... unfortunately in those days there was no Eagle Star to help him... Pension plans, viewers then deduce, would of course have saved the day. Closing shot, in colour, imagines Napoleon sunbathing away on a beach in his old age.

However, the campaign is but a taster of what's to come. "It's only a small beginning to what we want to do over the next three or four years," he warns.

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## THE ARTS

## The Marriage of Figaro/Leeds

Rodney Milnes

Opera North's new production of *Figaro*, directed by Peter Gill, opened on the same evening last week as Johannes Schaefer's for the Royal Opera. On the evidence of this performance this Tuesday, it could hardly be more different. Not better, not worse, just different—and equally satisfying.

Schaefer's staging, as Max Loppert noted, is crammed full of ideas almost to a fault; it is, perhaps, a production for people who know the opera really well and whose responses need to be stimulated. Gill's version, as might be expected from his work in the theatre (this is his first full-scale opera production), is an almost deadpan "straight" reading of the text in the Deutscher translation, significantly adapted.

That may sound unadventurous, but Gill really does direct the text in matters of dramatic timing, verbal nuance and inter-relationship: the results are exemplary. Anyway, the proof is in the eating: the Leeds audience responded so spontaneously to the comedy that even the most blasé old hack reviewer could not but be caught up in this joyous communal celebration of Mozart's and De Pource's genius. The contrast with Covent Garden, where the broadest verbal humour can pass by unnoticed, hardly has to be marked. Gill is lucky indeed with his collaborators and cast. Stephen Barlow's deftly paced conducting, like Händel's, is based on extremely judicious tempos that make the music "right," and on a carefully balanced, strongly accented playing. The English Northern Philharmonia was on top form, with the woodwind especially expressive. And the production is consistently designed by Alison Chitty. The set is basically a white box (a welcome change from black) with variously dressed, the scene changes take only seconds, each time, thanks to ingenious use of colour, what looks like a completely new set is

revealed. The whole visual concept, carefully lit by Robert Bryson, is as elegant as it is economical.

Casting nearly always affects the balance of a *Figaro*, and here proceedings were dominated by the Count and Susanna. Peter Savidge's Almaviva is a delicious creation; naturally authoritative, smoothly personable and quite helplessly stupid—hence so much of the comedy. He sings very strongly, fully justifying the use of the 1789 ending of his aria. In Helen Field's Susanna, so natural and open in her responses, so clever and so warm, he finds a worthy rival. And advance doubts about whether Miss Field would be a natural Mozartian proved unworthy: she sang as she acted, warmly, cleverly and naturally.

Robert Hayward's finely sung Figaro is already a better creature than he was for the Welsh National earlier in the year, but he still doesn't quite take the lead in the intrigue, or enter it for its own sake. There's a lack of the purely mercenary. Owing to illness, Ida-Maria Turri, a postgraduate at the Royal Northern College, made her professional debut as the Countess; with her bright, lightly vibrant soprano—a true soprano with detectable spinto tendencies—and her lively, unaffected personality she firmly put down her marker for the future.

Beverly Mills is a seasoned and just about perfect Cherubino, Clive Bayley much happier as Bartolo than as Basilio in earlier Covent Garden productions. Pauline Thuborn a blessedly straight Marcellina, and Bruce Budd a merrily rustic Antonio. Almost chewing his moustache off with concentration for his "geraniums." Only Barry Banks fails quite to gel as Basilio—he is simply too young. Elsewhere the youth of the cast is all gain in this fresh, uncut, enormously enjoyable *Figaro*.

## Last Summer in Chulimsk

Martin Hoyle

Alexander Vampilov was crowned in 1972, two days before his 35th birthday. The Cambridge Theatre Company's tour of his 1971 scenes from Siberian life this week plays at the Nuffield, Southampton, prior to visiting Warwick, Malvern, Cambridge and, finally, the Riverside Studios next month, with a gala on November 11, coincidentally Dostoyevsky's birthday.

In fact Chekhov's is the name most often evoked in connection with Vampilov's bitter-sweet variations on the themes of provincial aspirations, timid loves and blighted hopes. To judge from the clientele of Anna's cafe, a present-day Chekhov might well be writing soap-opera. The whopping mistake in Bill Fyfe's direction from which this production never recovers is to play the work in stage Anglo-Russian accents, executed by the cast with varying degrees of conviction (one of two settle for a faintly Welsh lilt). Combined with Paul Thompson's painstakingly colloquial English version—signalling each cliché with "to coin a phrase—the effect gets sillier and sillier as the drama intensifies ("Dawn! Dawn! Dawn!").

Siberia seems a pleasant background for small-town life. At Anna's open-air tables, meet her libidinous husband prone to bawling with her truculent illegitimate son, Pasha; and attractive divorcee Zina from the flat above the cafe, currently involved with the alcoholic police investigator whose amiable cynicism hides deep inner wounds. He is roused from personal and professional apathy by the sky

adoration of Valentina, the teenage waitress. A poignant note is provided by Ilya, an old drunk in search of the pension denied him by a Soviet bureaucracy that disapproves of old Brevk's (the original hunting tales of Siberia) with no discernible reason for his "geraniums." Only Barry Banks fails quite to gel as Basilio—he is simply too young. Elsewhere the youth of the cast is all gain in this fresh, uncut, enormously enjoyable *Figaro*.

Very gentle, very old-fashioned, and a wildly popular tear-jerker in the Soviet Union. Apart from the interest (to a modern audience) in seeing petty officialdom laughed at and the system satirised, one's main reaction is politeness: Sylvia Syms is wasted as the cafe proprietress but is very successful. Roy Marsden convinces as the world-weary policeman, a figure rather too familiar by now; and Francesca Buller, in her first professional engagement under drama school, is astonishingly assured as Valentina: both robust and ineffably touching. Poppy Mitchell's set is as conventionally efficient in its representational way as the play demands.

## Agnews/William Packer

## Held in Trust for the future



Temple of Apollo, Stourhead, by Martin Oxley

artists will produce good art if Peter Greenham, Roger de Grey, Ken Howard, John Ward, John Mortley, Peter Knapp and Bernard Dunstan, I have admired over many years. En masse, however, the sensibility is that of conscientious observa-

tion, sound technique, discreet statement, safety first. We might almost hear the whisper go round the stately hall where these works might hang at last: "how amazing to discover, in the age of abstract art, that still there are artists who can draw."

The most significant feature of the exhibition, therefore, is not the general interest and acceptability of the mass of the work, but rather the work of one or two artists who, given their heads, show something of what else the Trust might have, if only it keeps its nerve. William Tillyer shows a water-colour of Rievaulx, Anthony Eyton a water-colour of the Vyne, John Hubbard a drawing of the Round Pool at Tintinhull, small things admittedly, but by distinguished contemporary artists who have yet to set up the "National Trust for Contemporary Art" on the door. And there is Adrian Berg, whose canvas of the Pinetum at Nymans is characteristically his work in such a way that it may be hung any side up, and indeed is being thus rotated week by week.

With such artists as Berg and Tillyer drawn into the scheme already, there is every hope that others will now be asked to follow. The National Trust holds its property in trust for the future, which will be as naturally curious about us and the way we see the world as we are about the past. That is the true "Long Perspective."

## Leningrad PO/Festival Hall

Dominic Gill

It is difficult to decide which part of Tuesday's Leningrad Philharmonic concert under Mariss Jansons was the most exciting. Ten minutes after the second half, I should have said without hesitation that nothing during the evening was likely to match the electrifying account of Mendelssohn's violin concerto given by the young Russian violinist Sergei Stadler at his Leningrad debut. And indeed it was a stunning performance: commanding in every aspect, irresistible in its fervour, bursting with energy.

I have sometimes expressed disappointment on this page that an artist, good as they may otherwise be, took few risks in his or her performance. Stadler took a "risk" of magnificent risks on every page of the score, and won nine out of ten of them—and the single note that he lost (even if "lost" is hardly the word, for nothing was truly lost) paradoxically served only to heighten the tension and the sense of excitement.

I heard Stadler in 1980 in Helsinki, when he was only 18, and was second prize in the Tchaikovsky First Prize in the Sibelius Violin Competition. I can still remember the impact of his Sibelius concerto: but in the intervening years the manner has grown still more confident, the enormity still broader, the technique still more subtly varied and precise. A list of the many striking things he did with his music throughout the concerto would read like a catalogue—but one moment especially stands out: his exit from the first-movement cadenza, a marvellous shift from delicate to apocalyptic while still accelerating very fast, was literally breathtaking—a quite audible thrill ran round the hall. After the first applause had died down, he played two

## Adams' Harmonium/Birmingham

Andrew Clements

With a generous helping of his music promised at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival next month, and his first opera *Nixon in China* due in Houston in a couple of weeks, it might be an appropriate time to take stock of John Adams. In the second-generation minimalism that language forged in New York, his music is significantly different from the movement that stood it, and has transposition to the West Coast church and expanded a language forged in New York. More importantly, has Adams become the distinctive voice in American music his current popularity would seem to imply?

On the basis of *Harmonium* given its first British performance on Tuesday in Birmingham, the answer to these questions would be yes, yes and possibly. In some respects it is not representative of Adams' most recent music: it is his only work to date that sets texts (Donne's "Negative Love" and Emily Dickinson's "Because I could not stop for Death" and "Wild Night") and was completed nearly seven years ago—pre-dating a significant fraction of the creative span of a composer who has only just reached 40.

But it does still illustrate Adams' attitude to the musical language he has absorbed, showing him using the techniques of minimalism as means rather than ends, to generate and establish textures which can then be manipulated in consciously rhetorical ways. In doing so he establishes links not only with fashionable neo-romanticism but also a specifically American tradition—the trumpet affirmations that crown the final section of *Harmonium* look back unambiguously to

## The Hypochondriac

Michael Coveney

Alan Drury's serviceable translation of *Le Malade Imaginaire* was the basis of the generally reviled National Theatre production six years ago. Here it is again at the Lyric, Hammersmith, in a lazier production by Nancy Meckler derived from her own Leicester Haymarket studio version.

The most obvious thing about Tom Courtenay's winsomely dyspeptic Argan is that he has ignored Molière's division of the character into an obsessive health freak and cholerically cunning paterfamilias. This is a most interesting tactic that has not yet fully matured in performance. Mr Courtenay's rages are not yet towering, nor his hypochondria cataclysmically funny. Perhaps they never will be.

Instead, Robin Don's circular white curtains open to reveal a bedridden finical experimenter, smiling faintly toting up his bills on a computer. He gorges, sprays and inspects his tongue in the manner of one who has adopted the life of a self-indulgent. He is not driven or plagued on a scale to incite our unflinching, derisive laughter.

But Mr Courtenay's gentle seriousness over his condition catches perfectly today's absurd health-consciousness. The play also articulates a perennially popular suspicion of doctors, as it might have been. The low wattage of Mr Courtenay's performance is something to do with this and also the feeling that one or two of the actors have painted on their parts with too thin a brush.



Marilyn Cutts and Tom Courtenay

## ECO/Elizabeth Hall

Martin Hoyle

To counter the Leningrad Philharmonic a few yards away, on Tuesday the English Chamber Orchestra paired Thomas Allen, currently in Covent Garden's new *Figaro* under Händel, with one of Händel's comic-pastorals, *Alcina*, making his first appearance with the orchestra.

With three well-contrasted Mozart arias Mr Allen, in excellent voice, again proved himself supreme in musicianship and intelligence. "Un bacio di mano," that worldly-wise piece of advice to an emotional greenhorn with the refrain that would become one of the jauntiest themes in the *Jeppier*, ideally needs a ripe Don Alfonso timbre to match the cynicism (it figures in the buffo recitative) and the lower notes lacked the requisite fruitfulness and resonance. But the showpiece aria for the sultan's sympathetic overseer in the fragmentary *Zeide* gave no grounds for such nit-picking. The singer managed the cruel vocal leaps and wide range of "Nur mutig, mein Herr" with technical ease and dramatic apt brightness of attack.

The programme opened with Haydn's Symphony No. 82, the strings mellow rather than incisive, and not free of the occasional curdled tone, though the dancing reboined in his buffo recitative. The concert was capped by the concluding *Apollon Musagete* which can emerge as aridly neo-classical. Mr Vonk pointed the rhythms of Stravinsky's ballet so that the concert's overtures never become turgid or woolly. Jose-Luis Garcia was the impeccable solo viola.

## Arts Guide

## Exhibitions

## LONDON

The Tate Gallery, Turner in the new Clore Gallery: The Turner Bequest, which amounts to nearly 500 oil paintings, finished and unfinished, and a further 19,000 or so watercolours and drawings, has been a source of controversy and discussion ever since it came into the nation's hands more than 130 years ago. Turner had always wished for a gallery to himself which would show all aspects of his work. Whether he would have approved of James Gilling's extension to the Tate as still

able setting is a nice question. The larger paintings may be hung too low for one who lived in a more ostentatious age, and the useful oil principal galleries is a far cry from the rich panel he is known to have painted. The entrance hall has little to recommend it. But eight rooms for paintings and one for watercolours give room enough, and with the three reserve galleries upstairs, every painting but the few in restoration or on loan is on the wall.

## PARIS

Bibliothèque Nationale: Fine Prints in France from the 16th to the 19th

Century. More than 200 impressions of exceptional quality from the print department of the Bibliothèque Nationale show the infinite possibilities of artistic expression through varied techniques of printmaking. The panorama ranges from early engravings showing strong Flemish, German and Italian influence to the majestic Grand Siècle style under Louis XIV, from Boucher's pastel-hued elegant pastiches to the modernism of Toulouse-Lautrec and the striking colours of Bonnard. Bibliothèque Nationale, Galerie Mazarin, 56 rue Richelieu, Ends Nov 2.

Francis Bacon: on his return to Paris, Francis Bacon is showing four trip-

tychs among the 11 canvases painted between 1964 and 1967. There is a self-portrait, a brilliant and a subtle portrait of a woman, and a self-portrait by dressed President Wilson next to Trotsky's study—full of blood, needless to say. The artist who finds abstraction utterly boring continues to torture and distort the human figure. Galerie Lelong, 13 rue de Valenciennes (4663 1219). Closed, lunchtimes and evenings Saturday and Sunday. Ends Nov 22.

## WEST GERMANY

Bonn, Rheinische Landesmuseum, Colonnadenstrasse 14-16. Sculpture from the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). A result of the cultural agreement of May 1986 between East and West Germany, this exhibition includes 130 sculptures, some of them larger than life, and about 60 paintings of sculptures by 51 artists, and covers four decades. It offers a view of graphic works that have not even been seen in East Germany before. Among the artists are Gustav Seitz, Fritz Cremer, Werner Stütgen, Hermann Glöckner, Waldemar and Sabine Glöckner, Ingeborg Künzinger and Franziska Lobbeck. The show will be in Bonn until October 18 and then to Munich (Staatgalerie moderne Kunst, Nov 5-Jan 3) and Mannheim (Städtische Kunsthalle, Jan 23-Feb 21).

## ITALY

Rome: Two exhibitions which opened to coincide with the World Athletics Championships in Rome. The first, (until November 15), *Athla and Athletici in Classical Greece* at the Palazzo dei Conservatori at the Campidoglio recounts the religious origins

of this sport in Greece and includes a handful of fine statues (including the extraordinarily modern diorhous of Castel Porziano) and vase, while the second, at the Museo della Civiltà Romana (Piazza G. Agnelli 10, Rome), entitled *Sport in Antiquity*, recounts how the games gradually became an amusement for the masses and a means of self-advertisement for emperors. The museum in which it is housed is little-publicised and full of fascinating objects (Roman surgeons' tools, weights and measures, and scale models of bridges, viaducts etc.). Ends October 25.

## SPAIN

Barcelona: "Leonardo da Vinci. Nature Studies" 60 drawings on loan by the Royal Library at Windsor Castle, shown recently at the Metropolitan Museum, Stockholm and Tokyo. Centro Cultural La Caixa, Paseo de San Juan 108. Ends Nov 8.

## NEW YORK

Center for African Arts: *Angles on African Art* features ten co-curators, ranging from an African tribesman to collector David Rockefeller, each of whom chose ten of their favourite pieces, making a well-rounded and

diverse show. Other curators are writers Jeanne Bresson, artist Nancy Graves and Rosamond Bearden and curator William Rubin. Ends Jan 3.

## CHICAGO

Art Institute: Walker Evans photographs of the 1930s showing poverty and despair in the American South were famous in their time in *Life* magazine and preserved in James Agee's moving book, *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*. This exhibit is a reminder at a time of renewed despair in the American heartland of the scope and depth of Evans' work originally done for the Farm Security Administration. Ends Nov 8.

## WASHINGTON

National Gallery: *A Century of Modern Sculpture*, the Frey and Raymond Nasher Collection, contains major works by Rodin, Picasso, Matisse, Gabe, Giacometti, Ernst, Moore and Serra. Ends Jan 3.

## TOKYO

European Nature in 18th Century Japanese Art: This exhibition is of Japanese art inspired by Dutch mammals and depicts in the American South were famous in their time in *Life* magazine and preserved in James Agee's moving book, *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*. This exhibit is a reminder at a time of renewed despair in the American heartland of the scope and depth of Evans' work originally done for the Farm Security Administration. Ends Nov 8.

## Saleroom/Antony Thorncroft

## Wilsford goes mad

Sotheby's completely under-estimated the popularity of the Bright Young Things of the Twenties and brought in £844,160 from the first morning session of its auction of the contents of the Wilsford Manor, near Stonehenge, the home of one of the brightest of the set, the Hon Stephen Tennant, who died earlier this year. It had estimated to make that sum from two days hard selling.

Along with American and London dealers in the packed marquee on the lawn were the likes of David Linley and Uri Geller, who paid £5,720 for a lump of rock crystal estimated at £600. The top price is a session mainly devoted to rather second rate and dilapidated furniture was the £27,500 paid by Spink for a Chinese lacquer and gilt six fold screen of about 1810 which had carried a top estimate of £10,000. A Genesee kingwood commode of the mid 18th century made £18,700. Of more interest was the £3,960 from an American bidder for the zebra skin pouff delivered to Wilsford in 1942 by Colefax & Fowler. It had been under estimated at £250.

A Victorian chair shaped like a shell and covered in ivory satin around 1935 made £2,310, and a plaster pink painted torchere, also part of the 1930s "improvements," went for £283. Among the serious furniture an unusual George III carved gilt-

wood and gesso framed wall mirror of around 1780, in the Chinese Chippendale style, went to Christopher Gibbs for £18,700.

Sotheby's was also very busy in London. In the modern British picture sale the dealers A. & F. Gordon paid £16,500 for a portrait of a boy, Carlo, by the Irish artist Sarah Celia Harrison which had been expected to make £2,000 at the most. Obviously some customer had fallen for the rather vacuous looking youth. Pym, another London dealer, bought "Boris at anchor" by Philip Wilson Steer for £25,500, also far above the £3,000 rather cautious top estimate.

The market for 20th century British art is still strong. "Christmas roses" by Cecil Kennedy went for £9,800 and, showing that the Newlyn School remains the rage, a bought a small Stanhope Forbes portrait of a Cornish fisher boy for £8,800. "Portugal" by Edward Seago sold to Spink for the same price.

Another firm market seems to be post-1977 work. A dozen bottles of Taylor 1945 was on target at £1,850. In an Islamic auction a Heris silk carpet found a new home at £48,000, also at the top of the forecast.

SANDEMAN FOUNDERS RESERVE PORT  
NO LONGER RESERVED TO THE ENGLISH



# Saying no is not enough

THE YEARS since 1976 have been halcyon ones for the department that loves to say no. In 1975-76 general government expenditure in the UK reached 49% per cent of GDP. Ever since, the Treasury has been fighting a bitter war of attrition against its great enemies, the spending departments of Whitehall, but with no more than partial success. Properly accounted (namely, accounting for privatisation as a source of funding rather than as negative spending), the share of public expenditure in GDP in 1986-87 was still 44% per cent.

## Radical goals

With the "Star Chamber" again in session, it is timely to assess the Treasury's success in controlling expenditure. But it is perhaps more important still to assess this war of attrition against the radical goals of the Thatcher government. Judged by the reduction in the share of public spending in GDP, Mr Denis Healey was the most successful of the last three Chancellors. From 49% per cent in 1975-76, he succeeded in cutting it to 42% per cent just two years later. Under the Conservative government the ratio has never been as low as in 1977-78. The performance of the government in controlling public expenditure looks good only if the years of reference are 1981-82 or 1982-83, when the share of public spending was 45% per cent.

So far the Government has been running to stand still or, rather, to get back to where it started. The nature of the effort and the reason for the pain are made a little clearer by examination of a few of the components of public expenditure. If one removes debt service and the main transfer payments through the DSS, one gets closer to what is actually controllable. In real terms these components of expenditure were only 9 per cent above the 1978-79 level in 1986-87 (implying a compound rate of growth of mere 1 per cent) compared with an increase of 17 per cent for the total.

It is evident that high real rates of interest and the consequences of high unemployment make considerable claims on the Government's purse. Indeed, been quite strict in controlling what it can control, as it claims. However radical elsewhere,

the Conservative government has been true to its name on public spending. The boundaries between private and public responsibilities have certainly not been redrawn, the exception being the privatisation of profitable public corporations which the Government has attempted to present as negative public spending. Given that underlying conservatism, radical reductions in the share of GDP taken by public expenditure could only have been achieved by a decision to cut the bone one or more of the three main areas of spending (apart from transfers and debt service), namely defence, health and education. This was hardly likely.

The result of the conservatism about the responsibilities of the state, combined with an unwillingness to spend generously to meet those responsibilities, has been the worst of both worlds. Only a small proportion of the population can afford to pay for education or health twice, once through taxes and once privately. At present, therefore, most people have to accept the level of provision of essential services, like education and health, which is determined by the state.

## New demands

There are good reasons for believing that private preferences would lead to a growth in spending on health and education considerably faster than GDP. In the case of health, in particular, there are continual improvements in quality which are bound to create new demands. In addition, the costs of provision inevitably rise faster than those of goods and services in general. Accordingly, real provision has probably been squeezed by far more than suggested by the official figures. At the moment the Government is naturally, and rightly, criticised for failing to cut the share of national income taken by the state, while also failing to provide the services that citizens demand. The solution must be either to increase the private role in paying for health and education or to meet those demands through more generous public provision and, if necessary, higher taxes. Otherwise one merely achieves the emasculation of Leviathan. Saying no is not enough.

# The bankers' preserve

BRITAIN'S new Banking Act leaves little room for argument on the question of whether banks are fundamentally different from industrial and commercial companies. By insisting that potential owners should submit to a "fit and proper" test, it implicitly endorses the old orthodoxy: in view of their key role in the monetary and payments systems, together with their position of trust in relation to depositors, the banks are entitled to be protected from unwelcome predators. The problem has been to know how the Bank of England would interpret its mandate.

That uncertainty has now been removed by the Governor, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, who indicated on Tuesday that the Bank would use its power to prevent large British clearing banks from being taken over by industrial and commercial companies or overseas institutions. The clarification was undoubtedly welcome, although it will not have pleased the speculators who have been speculating on the future ownership of Midland Bank (among others) in advance of a statement of Bank policy. It also leaves some nagging doubts about the height of the ring fence that the Governor is proposing to throw around the commercial banking system.

The fact is that big commercial banks are now different in a way that is not spelt out in the economic textbooks. Many of them are less credit-worthy than their bigger clients, in the aftermath of the Latin American debt problem and of their exposure to troubled industries, such as energy and agriculture. It is not unreasonable for banks with weak balance sheets to look to strong non-banks for fresh capital.

## Powerful case

This is not to deny the potential conflict of interest that may arise between the shareholders of an industrial company and the depositors of its banking subsidiary. But to exclude outside ownership of a bank is surely too draconian a solution to the problem. The lesson in the collapse of Johnson Matthey Bankers was not that industrial ownership was per se wrong, but that weak industrial ownership was bad, especially if the supervisors failed to do their job.

## Dividing line

To his credit, Mr Leigh-Pemberton has left room for discretion: he favours a case-by-case approach to ownership which will respond to changing circumstances. There is, nonetheless, a risk that by appearing to set a fairly narrow overall view of fitness and propriety, he will have put in place too fierce a deterrent, not least because very few outsiders will, in practice, be willing to challenge the Bank's judgement in the courts.

In the longer run, there is also the difficulty that the dividing line between banks and non-banks is being eroded by developments in the markets and in technology. Commercial banks may be involved in financial intermediation or in payments systems are no longer the exclusive preserve of the bankers.

# India's economy, says Michael Prowse, is performing even less well than the figures suggest

FOUR DECADES AGO, Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first post-independence leader, dreamed of bringing India materially to a level with the western world. This ambitious goal was to be achieved through the rigorous application of the principles of democratic socialism.

Today, most of his hopes lie unfulfilled. India, with its miserable annual per capita income of \$270 (1985), falls into the World Bank's lowest category of developing country: it rubs shoulders with the likes of Niger and Somalia. Bolivia is getting on for twice as rich and South Korea is eight times wealthier. Even Communist China has enjoyed nearly three times as rapid growth of per capita gross national product.

The poor economic performance is fully reflected in social statistics. More than a third of India's population - 300 million people - subsist below the official poverty line. This means that basic nutritional needs are not met. Two thirds of the adult population cannot read or write. The infant mortality rate is nearly twice as high as in Vietnam.

Indeed, there is really only one standard by which India can be said to have done well: that of the British Raj. Between 1900 and 1947, India experienced total stagnation: GNP grew more slowly than the population. Food production virtually stood still and the result was extreme hardship and poverty.

India's post-war leaders would have been particularly dispirited by the dismal rate of industrialisation. The share of manufacturing in total national product has remained static at around 16 per cent since the mid-1950s. In South Korea and China, by contrast, the share of manufacturing in GNP has climbed to 26 per cent and 37 per cent respectively.

Even in agriculture, India's performance has been relatively unimpressive. Despite the much-hyped "Green Revolution", buffer stocks of grain have piled up in recent years, but only because people are too poor to buy all the food they need.

Productivity of some crops has risen, but the gains are unevenly spread and outshone by the achievements of other countries. Wheat yields are more than 50 per cent higher in China, according to the Tata group's Statistical Outline of India; Chinese rice yields are more than double those of India.

So what has gone wrong? Why has India done so badly? At first glance, excessive population growth seems a convenient scapegoat. There are now nearly 800 million Indians, roughly twice as many as at independence. The explosive growth in numbers has undoubtedly put the hard-pressed planners under enormous strain.

But India's leaders can hardly seek to avoid full responsibility for failing to contain this explosion, for failing to find the right mix of social policies. Population growth is not something that can be controlled by human control. Other countries, after all, have coped better with similar demographic challenges. In any case, too much can be made of population. Even if India's population had stagnated since 1947, per capita income (other things equal) would only be around \$300: still chronically low by the standards of successful developing countries.

**THE GROWTH MIRAGE**

% p.a. real terms	1950/1 to 1973/4	1973/4 to 1985/6	1950/1 to 1985/6
GDP	3.63	4.25	3.63
GDP (excluding public administration and defence)	3.41	3.84	3.44
Primary sector	2.13	2.44	2.25
Secondary sector	5.82	4.48	5.02
Tertiary sector	4.71	6.18	4.94

Source: Professor Suresh Tendulkar, Data, School of Economics

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# A case study in how not to do it

There is no avoiding the conclusion that slow growth reflects the particular economic policies favoured by India over the decades. The fault, however, does not lie in macroeconomic policy. By the standards of most developing countries - and many industrialised countries for that matter - India has followed extremely responsible macro policies.

There have been no Indian hyper-inflation or debt crises. The volatility of the growth rate has largely reflected the natural instability of agricultural output; it has not been much exacerbated by policy mistakes. Indeed, at times, macro policy may have been unduly cautious.

A certain asceticism seems built into the Indian character: officials like to boast that India, in the wake of the first oil shock in the early 1970s, imposed on itself far more austere measures than even the International Monetary Fund would have

those things in which it has a comparative advantage, but anything produced elsewhere. Only imports deemed essential to India's domestic development were allowed.

The approach to exports was, if anything, odder still. The Indians who so meticulously planned everything else simply forgot about them for around three decades; or, at least, when they did remember them, it was only to slap on some new tax or regulation designed to guide or ring companies back to the all-important home market in India simply stood on the sidelines in poverty while other east-Asian economies grew rich on the back of the post-war boom in international trade.

Attitudes to growth were also curious for a country that produces thousands of technically proficient economists. It was that if you piled up enough savings and invested them in sufficiently capital-intensive industries, growth would emerge automatically. Little or no attention was paid to the productivity of capital, which was implicitly low because of the controls and constraints.

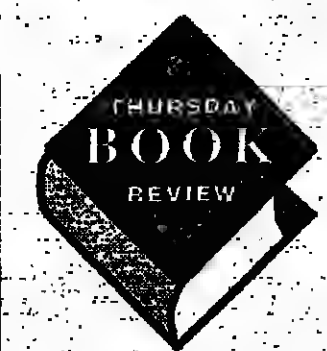
Has anything changed as a result of the "great liberalisation" of the Rajiv Gandhi Government? The short answer is "not much". The present Finance Minister, for example, is embarrassed even by the word liberalisation; he likes to talk about "rationalisation". There are a few World Bank technocrats in top advisory positions who espouse the principles of textbook microeconomics. But their voice is growing fainter by the day. Meanwhile Mr Gandhi is beginning to grasp the political virtues of sounding like a decent, concerned socialist.

Some of the most absurd controls on domestic industry have been lifted - particularly those limiting expansion of capacity. But the process of deregulation, which was begun by Indira Gandhi at the turn of the decade (and not by her son), seems to have run into the sand.

Foreign trade looks like remaining extremely tightly controlled for the indefinite future. Smuggling of consumer goods imports continues on a vast scale. It is getting worse because the rapid spread of television (and hence advertising) in recent years has created demand for goods that Indian industry cannot supply.

The Government likes to pretend that growth has speeded up in the 1980s. Sadly, this is not true - at least in the sense intended by the bureaucrats. The acceleration is almost entirely accounted for by very rapid growth of public administration and defence. The expansion of this part of the tertiary sector hardly seems an ideal platform for future economic development.

The outlook for India is thus quite bleak. It is a Third World pre-Thatcherite Britain: a country that is largely still guided by the intellectual ideas of Nehru and others picked up long ago at English public schools and universities. To that India should strive much harder for micro-economic efficiency is not to argue that it should abandon its commitment to social justice. It would be a pity if India's commitment to egalitarian growth were ever replaced by crude libertarian economics. The point is that there is a sensible middle way that India, despite its apparent resistance to liberalisation, has not yet found.



# The Thoroughbred Business

By Jocelyn de Moubray  
Hamish Hamilton: £12.95

I HAVE a soft spot for Nelson Bunker Hunt, the American commodities baron, as I do for all those roller-coaster mega-millionaires (they are not all billionaires) who devote part of their colossal wealth to seeking success in those most exalted of commodity-type endeavours: breeding racehorses and running them. (These activities are not one and the same thing, though each requires wealth on a decent scale.)

Unfortunately good old Bunker has run a little short of luck, as demonstrated by the news that he is "reluctantly" selling his entire breeding and racing stock at Kentucky, Kentucky, in January because of "business commitments in the oil and gas industries".

We are not talking about a few grey mares or other sundry nags, but about a holding that includes 285 thoroughbred brood mares, 115 two-year-old racehorses, 170 yearlings, plus investments in about 50 stallions. Bunker, who lives in Texas, has farms in nine different blue-grass counties in Kentucky, totalling about 8,000 acres, while Hunt-bred runners earned \$5.1m (£3.1m) and won 231 races last year.

In short, we are soon to see one of the most spectacular dispersals in the history of the racehorse, which will dramatise the bizarre fascination these creatures exert on the world's richest investor-collectors.

Why do the rich love horses? The answers to this question are tackled with great skill by Jocelyn de Moubray in *The Thoroughbred Business*, where he establishes, at the outset, that "in every (bloodstock) transaction each party realises it may either be wasting its money completely or selling a gem for the price of a bead."

That is what it is about: uncertainty and gambling. "Nobody knows," writes this youthful Old Etonian, "what a good racehorse is" or rather what exactly it is which enables one racehorse to run faster than another. Equally, nobody knows how to select a superior racehorse, or how to select one from a mass of relatively similar yearlings. Every participant formulates his own ideas or theories in the knowledge that they will never guarantee success, nor will any two different theories necessarily be mutually exclusive.

"This uncertainty," he continues, "is hidden by the myths and rituals of the bloodstock world. For if the business is to be a business its gambling aspect must be hidden and legitimised."

Success must appear to be due to skill and superior judgement, not chance alone. The bloodstock market is formed by the play of information and misinformation, which both shrouds and illuminates this uncertainty.

All of which is true. To the rich, racing is the ultimate commodities game, with major success on the turf (or dirt) at least as satisfying as conquering the world market in silver, or pepper, or dahlia cuttings.

More millionaires ought to be born in this mind when the great bull market in equities ends its present run and they start casting around for alternative investment havens, for in the next two or three years it is possible that a weary of new money will slosh into bloodstock, producing more traumatic price spirals in the sport of kings.

If so, new investors ought to read this book, for it provides a cleanly written guide to the 1,001 things dabbblers ought to learn before they venture to the sales ring or the race track and buy beads for the price of gems. De Moubray is succinct and sound on a wide range of matters, from taxation and estate change controls to the impact of speed, stamina, beauty and fertility are relative concepts of which there is no ideal. A stallion like Alydar commands an economic rent of something in the region of \$15m every year. The figure is extraordinary, for a 12-year-old stallion has few, if any, alternatives.

# The 1,001 things dabbblers should learn before they buy beads for the price of gems

In his final chapter, *Things To Come*, de Moubray briefly considers the two possible events that those within the bloodstock and racing businesses consider to be potential disasters: artificial insemination (AI) and withdrawal from the market of the Arab investors. The idea of millions of Alydar clones swamping race courses can certainly be exaggerated, though the main problems with AI - fraud and the belittling of the thoroughbred - are not insignificant.

In addition: The possibility of freezing sperm poses a threat. Without the inconclusive nature of its precepts, its mystery, its esotericism and the play of information and misinformation on the bloodstock business would be little more than a self-aggrandising lottery.

As for the Arabs, de Moubray speculates that it is at least possible that the period when Arab investors had their most critical influence on the bloodstock business has already passed. He concludes that horse racing is both an odd business and an odd sport. Of Bunker would agree with that.

Michael Thompson-Noel

# No incentives allowed

Business and learning have an uneasy relationship at the best of times, but nowhere more so than at the Columbia School of Business in New York where Asher Edelman, corporate raider and philosopher, is teaching class.

The debonair Investor's course on "Corporate raiding: The Art of War" has been boffo with Columbia students - and with the Columbia faculty under John Burton, the Dean. Edelman, who is currently fighting two takeover bids, went too far for Dean Burton when he offered a \$100,000 finder's fee to the student who best identified a company for him to buy.

Dean Burton admits that Edelman's course - which uses an ancient Chinese military handbook as one text - is "popular and effective". But he outlawed the award, saying that a "direct economic incentive" would "bias the academic environment".

Nonsense, said Edelman - and he is still saying it: most professors use their students for consultancy and then don't pay them for it. I want to give the kids more of the real world. I wanted to shock them out of the

"Ever since you told me we had some Guinness shares, I dream the midnight knock on the door."

# Men and Matters

complacent way a school teaches them to position themselves for success. I want to make them entrepreneurial.

He even offered to match the award with a \$100,000 gift to the school.

After a certain amount of consultation, the school decided to give the award to the student who best identified a company for him to buy.

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# Keep company

The letter from his bank gave Antony Hodges a bit of a shock to say the least. It informed him that according to an entry in the London Gazette, his company, Ayers Hodges Ltd, would be struck off the companies register and dissolved in three months "unless cause is shown to the contrary".

Hodges, who runs a bakers business in Lougham, Essex, is grateful to his bankers, Lloyd's, for the warning. Like most other businessmen, he knows he is not a regular reader of the London Gazette. "If my bank hadn't spotted the entry and informed me, my company could quite easily have been dissolved without my knowledge," he says.

From inquiries by his accountant, he tells me, it appears that when Companies House had a manual system of vetting limited companies, it would approach individual companies to find out whether they were still functioning. But now that a computer has taken over the vetting, it merely selects a number of companies, lists them in the London Gazette, and dissolves them if no

objections are made within three months.

How many companies, Hodges wonders, have been struck off in this way?

Hodges has asked his MP, Sir John Biggs-Davison, to take up his case. "I feel that this situation is one that needs to be investigated," he says. "It would appear that the computer is now ruling us all and can take decisions without our knowledge."

A spokesman for the Department of Trade said last night that proper procedures had been followed in the case. The latest annual return for the company was for 1985. Two letters had been sent, one by recorded delivery to the company's office. The notice had been inserted in the London Gazette after no replies had been received. "We still haven't heard anything."

# Tripped up

A furious campaign by Jean-Marie Le Pen, the far-right leader of France's extreme right-wing Front National, to force French deputies to attend the National Assembly, would appear to have rebounded against him.

Yesterday in the European Parliament in Strasbourg, one of Le Pen's lieutenants was roundly criticised for taking a free eight-day trip to the US at the Parliament's expense - and only attending one 20-minute breakfast meeting.

A point of order was raised in the Parliament by Labour MEP, Glyn Ford, who demanded an investigation into the attendance of Jean-Marie Le Pen, treasurer of the Le Pen group in Strasbourg, on a parliamentary delegation to Washington.

Legal moves

Baker & McKenzie, the London solicitors who are part of a worldwide legal partnership, have stolen a march on their competitors by becoming the first western law firm to operate behind the Iron Curtain.

The firm yesterday opened an office in Budapest in what Andrew Jones, senior London partner, rather excitedly described as "a move of historic proportions".

It would, he said, be a vital link in the firm's extensive East-West trade practice and complement its comprehensive European and international network of 38 offices in 25 countries.

The office, opened with the approval of the Hungarian government, will advise western companies on joint ventures with Hungarian enterprises.

As if to show its even-handedness, Baker & McKenzie also announced yesterday that it had opened an office in Palo Alto in California's "Silicon Valley".

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## ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT

## Men are masters of their fates

By Samuel Brittan

IT WAS OVER a decade ago, just after the Labour Government's second year, when the Monetary Fund, when adopted by the British Treasury that I went to visit the most senior of the 'unbelieving monetarists'.

Not entirely to my surprise he had piled on his desk several months' worth of circulars by Gordon Pepper of Greenwell's, the leading City expert on the monetary numbers.

They were there not because he believed that the monetary numbers were of intrinsic value to teach him about steering the British economy. It was just a sad fact in the view of this official that Pepper influenced the financial markets, and an even sadder fact that the financial markets imposed severe constraints on the conduct of policy.

It does not seem in the autumn of 1986, I was in Paris for a meeting to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The slogan of most top European financial policy officials was that policy-makers had to be extremely modest about what they could achieve.

The monetarist to the unbelieving monetarist was a believer in the power of financial markets to stop irresponsible policies, but not much else. Looking at Europe's unemployment record, I could not help agreeing that those present had a good deal about which to be modest, a remark which did not, of course, appear in the conference volume.

Behind the fatalism on both occasions was a fundamental misunderstanding. Market economists prefer to use markets to allocate resources rather than to rely on controls or government directives. But markets need a framework of rules and of policies if they are to function effectively, and clearer and more predictable the government's own actions, the better.

It is a travesty of market economics for governments to constrain banks simply to follow the wake of bond, money or foreign exchange markets without trying to give the lead, especially as these financial markets are as often as not themselves

trying to interpret government policy.

The reason for backing the judgment of the financial markets against those of governments in the 1970s was that the markets were right about the inflationary policies and there was a little sign that tolerating double-digit inflation brought any more sustainable growth. But that does not mean that the financial markets should always be fatalistically followed.

For the Shakespearean Cassius reminds us: 'Men at some time are masters of their fates.' These reflections have been touched off by the way in which central banks have been tightening monetary policy in the wake of rising bond yields, which were evident long before the news of the German withholding tax. 'The bond markets' the argument runs, 'mistakenly think that the outlook has become more inflationary. But to set market fears at rest, we will tighten policy. Afterwards we may be able to relax again.'

As Philip Stephens remarked in *UK Observer* on Monday, there is a danger that small upward moves in short-term rates administered by central banks will exacerbate inflationary worries by suggesting that central banks share them - which they probably do, sometimes in opposition to their own governments.

The background is not all that complicated. By 1985 the average inflation rate (measured crudely by consumer prices) had dropped to 3.8 per cent in the seven main OECD countries and policies that enhance supply rather than demand in low inflation countries of West Germany and Japan.

The sharp drop in oil prices, together with a fall in other commodity prices, has reduced the couple of points further from the inflation rate for a temporary period. For the main OECD countries a low of 1.3 per cent was reached in 1986, and up to the winter of 1986-87, the German inflation rate fell to a low of minus 1.2 per cent and the Japanese rate to one of minus 1.4 per cent.

Virtually every informed observer said at the time that this drop could not last. A once-for-all fall in oil and commodity prices would have a downward impact on inflation

while it is occurring. But a year after the low point has been reached it will cease to affect the recorded annual inflation rate.

The bounce-back effect has been increased by the fact that oil and commodity prices not merely ceased to fall, but have staged a modest revival in 1987.

Recorded annual inflation rates have inevitably jumped back from the temporary and unsustainably low levels of last winter. If one takes the latest six months at an annual rate, which probably gives an over-optimistic picture, the inflation rate in the seven main OECD countries has been 3.6 per cent. In West Germany and Japan it has been around 1 per cent, inflation rates being currently registered are still below those of the best years of the 1980s up to the oil price fall. Only in the US is the inflation rate a worrying 5 per cent.

Of that was all there were to it, one would be tempted to say that the bond markets have got it all wrong; that they are a victim of the short-termist that emerges from an excessive investment of time, energy and resources in spot indicators as they emerge on electronic screens.

The combination of electronic technology and the expansion of short-term financial markets activity have indeed led to some retrogression. Some of the earliest lessons of economic journalism, such as not going by one or two months' trade figures, the lags between depreciation and changes in nominal trade balances, and much else, have been forgotten and will have to be painfully relearned.

The problem of short-termism incidentally - so far from reflecting the better sense of people in the financial markets - is precisely the opposite. The absence of long-term stabilising speculators to which the Chancellor referred at the IMF, reflects the domination of salaried institutional employees judged by their performance over, say, three months. Stability is to be expected by wealthy individuals dealing for their own account, who can afford to take a long view.

Nevertheless, these generalisations aside, is there not something in the market's fear? Even if inflation is still within its recent trend, is it not likely to accelerate in future?

The answer does vary from one country to another; and this is what makes the common cross-border sheep-like behaviour of all central banks so unimpressive.

The major country where there is the greatest danger of an acceleration of inflation is the US. The US imported low inflation from the rest of the world when the dollar nearly doubled against the D-Mark between 1980 and 1985. Similarly the US is likely to import high inflation after the near-halving of the dollar in the subsequent two years.

In addition, despite all the alarms and worries, domestic US economic growth has been faster than in most other countries and the margin of unused resources is shrinking. The American unemployment rate has just dipped to 5.9 per cent, in contrast to the European average of 11 per cent. If there is overheating in any economy, the US is the place to look.

Alone of the Group of Seven, the US already has an inflation rate higher than in 1985; and the rate to which they expect US inflation to accelerate.

An increase in US short-term interest rates was justified both because of the inflationary consequences of any further downturn in the dollar and, directly, to put a brake on the growth of US nominal demand.

Further increases in US interest rates may thus be necessary, but it will be said if they are partially frustrated by capital increases by German and Japanese central bankers, whose attitude both to the rest of the world and their own bond markets is characterised by Brecht's saying: 'I am their leader; must follow them.'

Japan and Germany are far from mirror images of each other. Japanese industry has adjusted to the appreciation of the yen by cutting costs and Japanese industrial production is now 4 per cent higher than a year ago. Japanese profits are coming back from last year's decline, and industrial investment has continued on a strongly upward trend. Thanks in part to profit-related pay, Japanese wage costs have not increased since 1984.

By contrast, Germany's industrial production over the past few months has been below last year's. Profits are still under pressure and German investment has continued on a strongly downward trend. Thanks in part to profit-related pay, Japanese wage costs have not increased since 1984.

However, Japan and Germany have in common a growth of demand, measured by Nominal GDP, which is well below the inflationary threshold; and well below that required to keep output growing in line with capacity. Germany's demand management seems to have been more overcautious than Japan's; and

because its economy is less flexible, it has caused more damage, both internationally and to its neighbours.

If there is to be a demand stimulus in Germany, the case is overwhelmingly for a monetary rather than a fiscal stimulus. For the former favours investment and the latter consumption; and the OECD analysis shows that Germany suffers from capacity bottlenecks as well as demand constraints.

The purchases of dollars by the Japanese and German central banks assumed to be a monetary easing by the back door. But surely that is justified, if we believe that the former relationships between the money supply, as defined in each country and its national income, have broken down.

The two central banks have however, taken fright, and are in the course of tightening policy because yields have risen in the bond market. The Japanese have at least the excuse of spiralling domestic asset values. The Bundesbank does not even have that.

Most business investment in every part of the world is effectively financed at variable rates tied to the short-term cost of credit. An unfavourable reaction in long-term rates could, therefore, have been faced, after which a fresh assessment could be made of inflationary risks.

THE SMOOTH rhetoric of Mr John Moore's speech on Britain's National Health Service at the recent British Conservative Party conference was just that - smooth rhetoric. As the new Secretary of State for Social Services Mr Moore tried to sound radical; in fact he acknowledged that the NHS - a taxpayer-financed mechanism for providing health care to everyone free of charge at the point of delivery - is here to stay. This is not an ordinary sacred cow. It has the durability of India's ancient stone bull, the Nandi, that guards nobly down on the worshippers it dwarfs in so many holy places. The Conservatives are not about to attack such a revered object.

Yet the health service is in need of root-and-branch re-examination in at least three broad areas: the elimination of internal inefficiencies; the method of choosing which complaints to treat and how to treat them; and the setting of the optimum total cost of health care. Mr Moore told the Tory conference that 'we have to sweep away myth, dispense with sacred cows, and conduct our discussions rationally.' To judge from the nudges coming from his department the principal change that is envisaged is in the first area.

This will cause much exposition, most of which can safely be ignored. For all that is on the table is the introduction of better management within the NHS, and the principal means of achieving that is by extending competition. In 1983 health authorities were required to put out to tender contracts for cleaning, catering and laundry services. Although more than 90 per cent of the contracts subsequently awarded have gone to in-house groups as opposed to private companies, the net annual savings achieved was estimated by the Government to be running at close to £100m.

A widespread extension of the process seems desirable. If cleaning services, why not pathology laboratories, or screening centres, or hospital buildings? Allowing competitive tenders for such services would not scratch the Nandi; the taxpayer would still pay, and the patient would not in a pamphlet entitled *Healthy Competition*.

As to the second, Britain gets away with a cheaper health service than most comparable countries. When all the efficiencies have been allowed for, it is almost certainly too cheap. It needs a bigger share of gross national product. Mr Moore stated very smoothly indeed around that one.

published by the influential Centre for Policy Studies, John Peet proposes that health authorities should compete in most types of health care with both the private sector and one another.

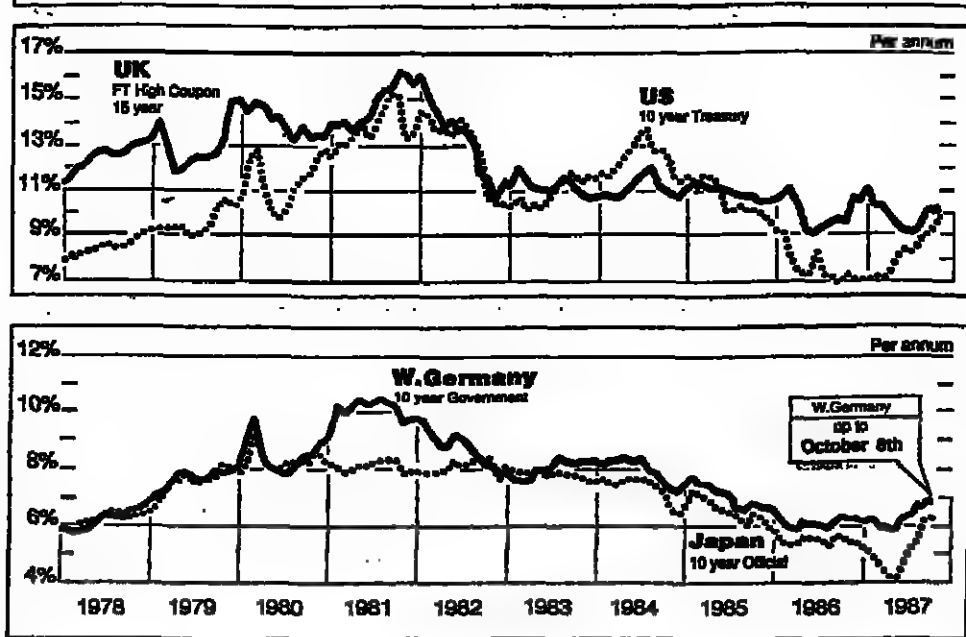
This would mean changes in Treasury practice. Mr Peet, who was the Treasury principal responsible for NHS finance between 1984 and 1986, writes feelingly about proper capital asset accounting, sensible cross-charging, financial freedom for NHS managers, and the like. He is even handed, arguing, for example, that if there is to be fair competition between hospitals should be required to meet a proper share of the cost of educating and training staff, which at present is paid for out of the public purse. He is also still infected with a touch of Treasury-itis, as in his proposal for 'some trammelling' of a doctor's freedom to refer patients to the consultant of his or her choice. That would be taking efficiency to an unacceptable extreme. Yet the broad lines of the 'Healthy Competition' approach have plainly been set. The immediate question is how far Mr Moore will move towards internal efficiency by such means.

That leaves untouched two main areas in need of re-examination.

As to the first - the method of choosing which complaints to treat on the NHS - it is perhaps too much to ask of any politician to comment on the quality-of-life arguments being pursued in academic studies. But it is now widely acknowledged that demand for health care is unlimited, especially where it is free. Most people pay for pharmaceuticals and dental services (although the method should be reformed to prevent preventive dentistry) and there is a charge for fancy spectacles. The poor are exempt. Should every NHS service be free at all times, even to the middle classes?

As to the second, Britain gets away with a cheaper health service than most comparable countries. When all the efficiencies have been allowed for, it is almost certainly too cheap. It needs a bigger share of gross national product. Mr Moore stated very smoothly indeed around that one.

## LONG BOND YIELDS



## Bake a bigger cake

From Professor W Butler and Mr C Bean

Sir, Samuel Brittan (October 9) argues that the United Kingdom needs a budget surplus. His debunking of the political arguments that will be rehearsed for more government borrowing is to the point, but the economic case he puts forward for a more contractionary fiscal policy is questionable. His argument is based on the view that the British economy is in danger of 'overheating'. He points out that the current growth rate of 3 1/2 per cent is the same as the rate of growth of potential output, implying that faster demand growth cannot be accommodated. This ignores the fact that there are still unused resources in the economy - especially labour - and that a period of unsustainably rapid growth must occur sometime in the future to be brought back into operation.

What evidence is there of 'overheating'? According to the latest quarterly CBI industrial trends survey only 45 per cent of manufacturing firms still report operating below capacity (compared to 48 per cent in 1973 and 57 per cent in 1979). Nevertheless some 60 per cent of firms say that lack of demand is a constraint on output, while only 22 per cent report that capacity is a constraint. The figures are a far cry from the 'overheating' that Brittan suggests.

There is the worsening trade deficit. But, as the Chancellor has noted, this is largely a result of the slow economic growth in the rest of the world and does not reflect any fundamental lack of competitiveness. Indeed to the extent that there is a competitiveness problem at this juncture it is little more than a reflection of the policy of maintaining an overvalued exchange rate on counter-inflationary grounds.

There is the recent acceleration in pay settlements. Indeed it is worrying that the benefits of increased productivity, as well as of the recent tax cuts, is accruing to those in work in the form of higher wages rather than to the unemployed as more jobs. The acceleration, however, is still quite mild - about 4 percentage points since the beginning of the year - and this may be a necessary, but temporary price to pay if a long-term unemployed are to be reintegrated into the labour market.

Even if there is a degree of overheating, does it follow that the government should adopt a more contractionary fiscal

## Letters to the Editor

From Professor W Butler and Mr C Bean

There is certainly truth in Brittan's view that the growth in demand has been uncomfortable. It is not, however, as uncomfortable as he suggests. The demand for goods and services is not investment, but the best way out is surely not just to redistribute the cake, but to bake a bigger one. The government has a considerable fiscal deficit - the ratio of the national debt to GDP has been falling and is now at historically very low levels. The government has a large surplus in the long-term (the ratio of the national debt to GDP has been falling and is now at historically very low levels). In the short-term their effect is almost exclusively on demand. By contrast reductions in employer's national insurance contributions (preferably targeted at the long-term unemployed) are likely to have a much more immediate effect on supply. Coupled with increased public investment in the infrastructure and a more relaxed monetary policy to promote private investment, Brittan's economic recovery can continue without a rekindling of inflation.

(Professor) William Butler, Charles Bean, London School of Economics, Houghton Street WC2

## Safe as houses

From the Secretary-General, Building Societies Association

Sir, Eusebio Dixon's feature (October 9) attributed to me the comment that 'the old-fashioned traditional building society is no longer tenable', following his comment that societies have to become generalised consumer financial institutions. The juxtaposition thoroughly misrepresents what I said to him and misreads the real position.

The traditional old-fashioned building society was an institution that raised all of its funds in the retail market, could virtually determine its operating margin, and was faced with an endless queue of borrowers. Such old-fashioned building societies no longer exist. The modern day society is still specialist in housing finance, but raises funds from a variety of wholesale and retail sources, has made maximum use of advanced technology and offers services related to its mainstream business. It is also facing a much fiercer competitive environment, and is handling that environment remarkably well.

Dixon also exaggerates and misunderstands the current problems which societies have.

The 20 per cent limit on wholesale funds, which applies to balances not to new funds, is constraining only a weighted average of the limit to be increased so as to stop it becoming a significant constraint, not because it is currently a constraint. Mr Dixon's suggestion that societies which have tried to offer more general consumer financial services 'have almost invariably found their way blocked by regulatory hurdles' is nonsense. He gives the example of deposit based pensions. There is no regulatory constraint here under the Building Societies Act; the legal problems, which have now been overcome, related to deposits generally. Societies have moved swiftly and efficiently to many new areas without any regulatory problems.

Mr Dixon's conclusion that 'building societies, as a distinct public institution, have little time to devote to the public interest' is difficult to substantiate. There is room in Britain, as in other countries, for retail financial institutions which are not small mortgage banks. They are they and their regulatory framework adapt to the rapidly evolving market conditions there is no reason why societies will not continue to thrive; they will have a lower share of the mortgage market than in the past, but a higher share of new markets which they have just begun to penetrate.

Building societies, and readers of the Financial Times, are entitled to a less sensationalised and more informed reporting of their affairs.

MJ Boleat, 3 Savile Row, W1.

## US 'bad faith' litigation

From the Chairman, Society of English and American Lawyers

Sir, In his interesting article (October 9) on US 'bad faith' litigation, Mr Hermann says that there is no sign that English courts will adopt the US system of damage assessment in such cases. As a general statement that is certainly true. In libel actions however, 'aggravated damages' have long been awarded when it is considered that the motive and conduct of the defendant justify an award higher than might otherwise have been made. Interestingly these awards, which are quite distinct from awards of 'exemplary damages', are not perceived as a penalty, but as a measure of the compensation properly due. Lord Reid explained this in *Broome v Cassell* by saying that when a defendant 'behaves in a high-handed, malicious, insulting or oppressive manner, or at the trial aggravated the injury... that would justify going to the top of the scale and awarding as damages the largest sum which could fairly be regarded as compensation'.

We appear to have here a concept which could be developed and applied in other cases. If that provided some compensation for the financial and emotional strain of litigation - at least in those cases where the burden has been increased by the defendant's conduct - that would, I believe, be widely welcomed as a blow for justice.

MJ Brown, Brown Cooper, 7 Southampton Place WC1.

## Pan-European mergers

From Mr B Cassidy MEP

Sir, Christopher Lorenz (October 12) highlights a major problem in the European Community: the preference for making acquisitions across the Atlantic rather than across the Channel. The danger we face is of being pre-empted by the Americans (which should be regarded as our home market) by the Italians, the French and the Swedes (who are not even members of the European Community).

I wonder to what extent the blindness of British business to the opportunities on the Continent stems from the almost total ignorance in the City of how to buy into the Continental market. Most British merchant banks, for example, have very few links in North America but relatively poor ones on the Continent. There are noble exceptions like Hambros who are plainly benefiting from the advice and experience of Sir Michael Butler, the former United Kingdom Permanent Representative in Brussels.

Admittedly there are some respects in which it is more difficult to make acquisitions in Europe rather than in North America - among them the language barrier. Perhaps we need more multilingual yuppies in the City of London!

Bryan Cassidy, The Stables, White City Gardens, Blandford, Dorset.

## A different solution

From Mr J Rooker MP

Sir, I must say that I did not find the full page advert (October 9) by Price Waterhouse on the definition of a bicycle for the purposes of import duty at all funny. Its client would not have had any problems if he had purchased his parts in Birmingham instead of Taiwan.

Jeff Rooker, House of Commons, SW1.

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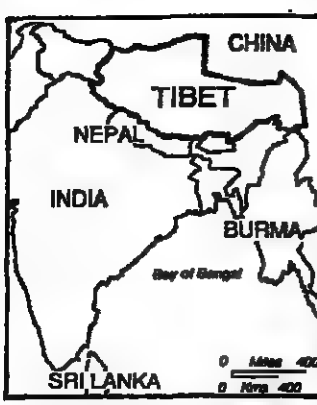
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Robert Thomson questions whether Peking has learned any lessons from the recent unrest in Lhasa

## Tibet remains a puzzle for Chinese

STANDING in the shadow of the Drepung monastery on the fringe of Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, two young monks draped in orange robes looked at a Western text on the region's history. They flicked through the pages with intense curiosity but when they came across a photograph of Mao Zedong, the former Chinese leader, both scowled and one drew back and spat.



Right: A Tibetan monk tries to breach a police cordon round the Chinese embassy in New Delhi



The two worlds of Tibet, the communist and the Buddhist, remain divided despite almost four decades of rule by the Chinese Communist Party and three decades of life without the Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual leader who heads a government-in-exile in Dharamshala, India, but who still occupies the hearts and minds of most Tibetans.

The protests and the violence of the past few weeks have proved to the party that it has yet to convert Tibetans to the worship of communist icons. They will prompt a reappraisal by Peking of its policies towards the two largest religious minorities, the Moslems in Xinjiang and the Buddhists in Tibet.

Questions about Tibet and its situation are provoking very different answers from the Dalai Lama and Peking. The Dalai Lama refers to about 6m Tibetans and estimates that as many as 7.5m Chinese have been moved onto the Tibetan plateau within the past four years. Peking, which redrew the boundaries long ago, gives figures of 2m Tibetans living alongside 1.8m Tibetans.

The two differ on almost every facet of the region's history, ranging from the ruthlessness or benevolence of past Lamas to whether or not the Dalai was kidnapped by a "counter-revolutionary clique" in 1959, after a failed uprising.

Certainly, Tibet remains remarkably impervious to Sinoisation. Each day, pilgrims armed with bottles of yak butter tip the rows of candles that glow in other-

wise gloomy temples. Statues of the Buddha are bowed heads and in front of the Jokhang, a temple in the heart of Lhasa and on the site of the first protest, women clad in black and with their legs tied together just below the knee repeatedly prostrate themselves and draw arcs with their hands on the dusty pavement.

Chinese officials are bemused by such behaviour and have been smugly confident that the Tibetans and the Uighurs will eventually see the light of communism.

Yet the protests in Tibet have forced the Government to re-examine whether the religions of both areas are too deeply entrenched to be dismissed as passing phases. The inconsistent handling of the protests also reveals a lack of planning. Last week, 30 or so young monks were beaten during a peaceful march from Drepung to the centre of Lhasa. Surprisingly, those who were not in hospital were released the next day.

Just as there was a backlash after last year's student protests, bringing with it the launch of a campaign against bourgeois liberalism or Western influence, Communist con-

servatives will attempt to use a party congress later this month to introduce tighter controls not only on Tibetans, but on all Chinese. The conservatives will argue that most of the protesting monks are young and that the monasteries have become a breeding ground for counter-revolutionaries.

The sensitivity of the issue is illustrated by the fact that internal party documents criticising Hu Yaobang, the fallen party general secretary, cited his attitude towards Tibet as a major flaw.

In response to the protests, the party could decide to expand its programme of sending young Tibetans for education in other provinces, or to reduce the monks' power by installing party secretaries to run the monasteries. Lhasa may have to become accustomed to the police presence established in recent days, and movement to and from the region could be severely restricted.

All these measures would give Peking a greater sense of control but they would also irritate the Tibetans who have long realised that the "Tibetan autonomous region" is a misnomer.

Already, relations between civilian Chinese and Tibetans have deteriorated, with a marked increase in assaults on Chinese in recent weeks. One Chinese, who is restoring temples, has decided to stay away from work until the situation cools and another says he is afraid to leave his home at night. While many Chinese are lured to Tibet by the prospect of salaries roughly three times higher than they would normally earn, others are genuinely fascinated by Tibetan culture and can speak the language.

While Peking blames a "few splitters" for the protests, it does not seem to have understood the unusual circumstances behind the dissent. The Chinese failed to realise the significance of monks who partly inspired the monks to take to the streets. Before each of the protests, earth tremors shook Lhasa, and before two of the demonstrations, rainbows appeared over the city. A Drepung monk explained that the phenomena were signs that the "Dalai's soul is back in the Potala", the hilltop palace that dominates the Lhasa landscape.

Chinese officials regard the Tibetans as ungrateful, complaining that they have not been allowed to visit.

ing the tolerance now being shown to the violence of the cultural revolution (1966-76). Yet Tibetans are far more interested in talking about the aborted uprising of 1959 and the continuing lack of freedom. And they have been encouraged to protest by returning exiles who hold Nepalese or Indian passports.

The Dalai Lama's intensified campaign to draw attention to the situation has given Tibetans confidence. Sensing that Sinoisation is slowly but inevitably wearing down the foundations of his support, he has called for civil disobedience and better international links by winning the support of US congressmen.

Tibet has become a sore point in Sino-US relations. The Dalai Lama realises that he has a sympathetic US audience. How will he play to that audience will partly determine the size of the diplomatic problem.

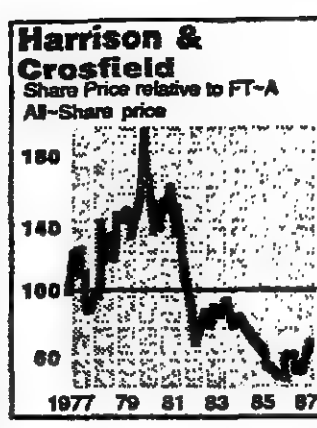
At the weekend, the Chinese president, Li Xiannian, criticised the US Government for violating friendship treaties by allowing the Dalai to make "political" speeches. He, too, condemned a "few splitters" for attempting to divide the country, an analysis that is as wrong as it is simple.

The Chinese are the masters of their own fate in Tibet. If they handle the situation with sensitivity, by treating leniently the 50 or so monks still in custody and by seeking to solve religious problems, they should break the cycle of violence. However, if monks are executed and the police grip tightens, the religious and political problems will become more intractable and a futile quest for independence could easily become racial violence on a far larger scale.

Tibet has been closed indefinitely to most foreigners. A Foreign Ministry spokesman announced in Peking yesterday. Only tourist groups with contracts already signed and other groups receiving the specific permission of the regional government will be allowed to visit.

## THE LEX COLUMN

### Still dishing out dollars



Months should have elapsed. However, this delay must not be seen as a bridgehead for the "City lobby" from which it can push on to question the very basis of Section 62 (2). Such a campaign would anyway divert attention from the more important discussions on capital adequacy and corporate finance.

**Midland Bank**  
Much of the recent speculative froth in Midland Bank shares was knocked off yesterday, as the City concluded that the Bank of England had declared the group off limits even for a blue-chip saviour like Deutsche Bank. It remains to be seen whether anyone dare challenge the Governor's "no nonsense" views on the ownership of a major UK clearing bank, but Midland shares could underperform the market until there are signs that its new strategy is producing results.

This may not be too far off. Yesterday's joint venture with Commercial Union to set up a new life company is another sign that the group is moving quickly to strengthen its position in the domestic financial services industry. Given the well publicised strains on its balance sheet, Midland would have found it hard to justify a major acquisition of a life company. For an initial outlay of little more than £10m, it has a ready-made life assurance product which it will be able to sell direct to its branch network and, unlike National Westminster, it seems confident that this is what its customers want.

**Harrisons & Crosfield**  
Harrisons & Crosfield used to be a plantations company with a host of peripheral businesses. It has now turned itself into a chemicals company with peripheral businesses. Although it should boost its full year pre-tax profits by more than a third to 250m, say, it is still unclear where the group is heading over the medium term. The injection of new blood at senior levels and the appointment of ex-M&G supremo David Hopkinson as deputy chairman should help raise its profile in the City. Nevertheless, the group's first efforts at revealing what was under its palm skirt at yesterday's general conference did little to dispel the belief that it has merely swapped its exposure to one cyclical industry for exposure to another.

**Section 62**  
In an ideal world the tasks of promoting the City internationally and protecting investors would be a jodel within the same ministerial mind. Lord Young's decision to delay the implementation of Section 62 (2) of the FSA - which grants the right of civil action against a company's directors - will be seen in some quarters as a failure to maintain the balance.

But that announcement and his comments emphasising the self-regulatory face of the statutory self-regulatory framework were well timed, on the day after the latest Guinness developments, to avoid a political storm.

There was perhaps a case for limiting the sixth month delay to professional investors, who might have been in a position to indulge in opportunistic litigation, but there can be no objection to the principle. It is certainly preferable to holding back those sections of the Act which are likely to cause acute confusion, there being so many grounds that they would be an ill-market, but presumably also because even defenders hope to be aggressors some day. Interestingly, the task force for the

**Short-termism**  
The CBI report on short-termism looks at first like a fudge, but on closer inspection it is an honest admission that a wrong question had been asked. A year ago there was a panic feeling that takeovers were getting out of hand, and that it was all the City's fault. The failure of the Pilkington bid has since calmed much of the panic, and some of the hostility against the City has been smoothed by rising prosperity among industrial executives on the one hand and redundancies among young men with Forshes on the other.

The report is also an implicit reminder that takeovers are initiated not by shareholders but by managers. Various steps to make takeovers harder were rejected, explicitly on the grounds that they would be an ill-market, but presumably also because even defenders hope to be aggressors some day. Interestingly, the task force for the

## Changes likely to Europe's capital reform

BY QUENTIN PEEL IN STRASBOURG

THE FINAL phase of liberalisation of all capital movements within the European Community - due to be presented to EC finance ministers next month - may require important changes to deal with tax evasion and differences in company taxation, the European Commission was told yesterday.

Protection will also have to be built into the system to prevent major movements of speculative capital, said all the restrictions on personal cash transactions are lifted.

A memorandum on the consequences of the final phase of capital liberalisation was presented to the 17-member Commission in Strasbourg by Mr Jacques Delors, the Commission President, and Lord Cockfield,

Commissioner responsible for the internal market. It spells out again the conviction that the absence of sterling from the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System will cause harmful tensions and increase the danger of exchange rate overshooting relative changes in economic fundamentals.

The memorandum proposes a closer approximation of company taxation systems - to avoid investment decisions being distorted by significant differences between member states.

It promises a consultative paper on the taxation of enterprises by the end of the year. On tax evasion, the memorandum states that because investment income will be payable in bank accounts in any member

state, the risk that it will not be declared in the country of residence will be heightened.

One solution would be the imposition of a generalised withholding tax, similar to that proposed in West Germany. That would guarantee a minimum level of revenue in the country where the income arises, and be allowable against tax in the country of residence.

Another would be to oblige banks to disclose information to the tax authorities, although this would certainly fall foul of bank secrecy regulations in countries such as Luxembourg.

"The problem of fiscal evasion presents the member states with a major dilemma," the commissioners were told. Prospects for a generalised withholding

tax in the EC seem "remote," but co-operation between the tax authorities of the different member states looks more likely.

The Commission, whose plans are already under discussion in the member states, also proposes a single instrument for medium-term balance of payments support, both for countries in balance of payments difficulties, and those seeking to liberalise capital movements.

It also proposes a single instrument for medium-term balance of payments support, both for countries in balance of payments difficulties, and those seeking to liberalise capital movements, despite a "precarious" external position - a reference to those such as Ireland, Greece, Spain and Portugal still protected by safeguard clauses.

## Brock to resign and join Dole campaign

By Stewart Fleming in Washington

MR WILLIAM BROCK, the Reagan Administration's Labour Secretary, is planning to announce today that he is resigning to become chairman of Senator Robert Dole's Presidential election campaign.

The news is another setback for a Reagan Administration which is being weakened by a steady stream of departures as the President's second four-year term approaches. Mr Brock was expected to play a key role in helping the White House shape the Trade Bill on Capitol Hill.

However, it represents a major coup for Senator Dole. Mr Brock is recognised as one of the shrewdest political tacticians in Washington, and he demonstrated during his years as chairman of the Republican Party between 1977 and 1981 a widely admired talent as a political organiser.

Mr Brock's decision to join the Dole campaign is also being seen as a setback for Vice-President Bush, his main rival for the Republican Party's presidential nomination.

In theory, Mr Brock as a moderate Republican has opted to join either candidate. His decision to commit himself to Senator Dole suggests that he believes Mr Dole is the stronger man.

Mr Brock's campaign, while better financed and organised than Senator Dole's, lacks a political strategist of the calibre of Mr Brock. Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary and a friend of Mr Bush, has not yet committed himself to managing the Vice-President's campaign.

Mr Brock will be the second top-level defection from the Reagan Administration to Senator Dole's campaign in recent weeks. Mrs Elizabeth Dole last month quit as Transport Secretary to begin to play a prominent role in her husband's presidential campaign.

Both Mr Dole and Mr Brock, who is a former US Senator from Tennessee, are southerners. They are expected to strengthen Mr Dole's campaign in an area of the country that both political parties see as crucial, in part because of the bunching of presidential primary elections in a dozen Southern states on March 3.

Mr Brock's arrival at the Dole campaign headquarters may resolve a problem which has plagued the Senator so far. He is perceived to have been too actively involved in day-to-day management and his top staff too often divided and unsettled.

The appointment of Mr Brock could herald a reorganisation of Mr Dole's campaign.

## Death toll rises as Indians besiege Tamil stronghold

By Mervyn de Silva in Colombo

THE DEATH TOLL in Sri Lanka mounted yesterday as Indian troops trying to capture the northern city of Jaffna encountered sustained resistance from Tamil Tiger guerrillas.

Widespread food shortages and prolonged curfews meant that the entire Jaffna peninsula was under virtual siege. Three trucks carrying Indian soldiers from Manipal to Jaffna were reported missing and there are fears that they had been ambushed.

Indian reports listed 30 more soldiers dead, raising the official Indian death toll to 57 since the peace-keeping force launched its offensive on Saturday against Jaffna. The Tamil stronghold 300km north of Colombo. One report from India said that 25 of the Indian paratroopers dropped into Jaffna on Monday had been killed.

A spokesman for the Tulu, the main Tamil parliamentary party, said that at least 300 Tamil rebels had been killed and civilian casualties were "quite high." He claimed that about 80 Indian soldiers had been killed

and more than 150 wounded. No journalists are being allowed into the battle zones, making it impossible to verify claims of sustained resistance from Tamil Tiger guerrillas.

Indian officials have been predicting the fall of Jaffna for two days but there are serious doubts about how far Indian troops have been able to advance. The alleyways of Jaffna city are ideal terrain for guerrilla warfare and the heavily-armed Tamils appear to be proving extremely difficult to dislodge. Fierce battles are unofficially reported to be continuing in almost every street leading into the city.

An Indian spokesman claimed last night that one column approaching Jaffna city from Navatikuli, a few kilometres south, was barely a kilometre away from the heart of the northern capital, while two other columns were also closing in on the city.

An unofficial Tamil report, however, said the Indians had been unable to make any advance along three major roads towards Jaffna since noon yesterday.

## Guinness arrests delay report on takeover bid

By Clive Wolman in London

THE REPORT of the inspectors of the UK Trade and Industry Department into Guinness, which was launched last December, is likely to be held back until after the trial of the four men so far arrested and charged with theft and share manipulation during the £2.5bn (£4.1bn) Guinness takeover bid for Distillers.

According to detectives involved in the case, the Director of Public Prosecutions in May asked the police to investigate possible crimes and bring appropriate charges as soon as reasonable. The charges against them is likely to be challenged as undermining indirectly the traditional right to silence.

Between the City of London yesterday and elsewhere, people expressed surprise at the wide-ranging charges that were brought on Tuesday against Mr Gerald Ronson, chairman of the Ronson Corporation, and Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chief executive of Guinness. Many considered that the police may have overreached themselves by bringing theft charges for possibly fairly breaches of the Companies Act.

Mr Ronson appeared in Bow Street magistrates court, London, yesterday morning to face eight charges, including the theft from Guinness of more than £5m. He was granted bail on two securities of £250,000 each, which were provided by Mr Trevor Chinn, chief executive of the Lex Group, and Mr Harvey Sankin, a London estate agent. He has been remanded until November 6.

A complex procedural dispute is likely to arise in the course of a trial over the admissibility of the evidence given to the inspectors. Because the inspectors can compel witnesses to give evidence with the threat of imprisonment, the subsequent use of the evidence against them is likely to be challenged as undermining indirectly the traditional right to silence.

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World Weather									
Place	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Place	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Place	Temp
Alaska	15	10	10	Algeria	25	10	10	Algeria	25
Algeria	25	10	10	Australia	25	10	10	Australia	25
Australia	25	10	10	Austria	15	10	10	Austria	15
Austria	15	10	10	Bahamas	25	10	10	Bahamas	25
Bahamas	25	10	10	Bahrain	35	10	10	Bahrain	35
Bahrain	35	10	10	Bangladesh	25	10	10	Bangladesh	25
Bangladesh	25	10	10	Barbados	25	10	10	Barbados	25
Barbados	25	10	10	Belize	25	10	10	Belize	25
Belize	25	10	10	Bermuda	25	10	10	Bermuda	25
Bermuda	25	10	10	Bhutan	15	10	10	Bhutan	15
Bhutan	15	10	10	Bolivia	15	10	10	Bolivia	15
Bolivia	15	10	10	Bosnia	15	10	10	Bosnia	15
Bosnia	15	10	10	Botswana	25	10	10	Botswana	25
Botswana	25	10	10	Brazil	25	10	10	Brazil	25
Brazil	25	10	10	Brunei	25	10	10	Brunei	25
Brunei	25	10	10	Bulgaria	15	10	10	Bulgaria	15
Bulgaria	15	10	10	Burkina Faso	25	10	10	Burkina Faso	25
Burkina Faso	25	10	10	Burundi	25	10	10	Burundi	25
Burundi	25	10	10	Cambodia	25	10	10	Cambodia	25
Cambodia	25	10	10	Cameroon	25	10	10	Cameroon	25
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Canada	15	10	10	Cape Verde	25	10	10	Cape Verde	25
Cape Verde	25	10	10	Cayman Islands	25	10	10	Cayman Islands	25
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Chad	25	10	10	Chile	15	10	10	Chile	15
Chile	15	10	10	China	15	10	10	China	15
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Croatia	15	10	10	Cuba	25	10	10	Cuba	25
Cuba	25	10	10	Cyprus	25	10	10	Cyprus	25
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Dominica	25	10	10	DRC	25	10	10	DRC	25
DRC	25	10	10	Ecuador	15	10	10	Ecuador	15
Ecuador	15	10	10	Egypt	25	10	10	Egypt	25
Egypt	25	10	10	El Salvador	25	10	10	El Salvador	25
El Salvador	25	10	10	Equatorial Guinea	25	10	10	Equatorial Guinea	25
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Faroe Islands	15	10	10	Fiji	25	10	10	Fiji	25
Fiji	25	10	10	Finland	15	10	10	Finland	15
Finland	15	10	10	France	15	10	10	France	15
France	15	10	10	French Polynesia	25	10	10	French Polynesia	25
French Polynesia	25	10	10	Gabon	25	10	10	Gabon	25
Gabon	25	10	10	Gambia	25	10	10	Gambia	25
Gambia	25	10	10	Georgia	15	10	10	Georgia	15
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Ghana	25	10	10	Greece	25	10	10	Greece	25
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Haiti	25	10	10	Honduras	25	10	10	Honduras	25
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Iceland	15	10	10	India	25	10	10	India	25
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Kuwait	25	10	10	Kyrgyzstan	15	10	10	Kyrgyzstan	15
Kyrgyzstan	15	10	10	Laos	25	10	10	Laos	25
Laos	25	10	10	Latvia	15	10	10	Latvia	15
Latvia	15	10	10	Lebanon	25	10	10	Lebanon	25
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Lithuania	15	10	10	Luxembourg	15	10	10	Luxembourg	15
Luxembourg	15	10	10	Madagascar	25	10	10	Madagascar	25
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Malawi	25	10	10	Malaysia	25	10	10	Malaysia	25
Malaysia	25	10	10	Maldives	25	10	10	Maldives	25
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Mali	25	10	10	Malta	25	10	10	Malta	25
Malta	25	10	10	Martinique	25	10	10	Martinique	25
Martinique	25	10	10	Mauritania	25	10	10	Mauritania	25
Mauritania	25	10	10	Mauritius	25	10	10	Mauritius	25
Mauritius	25	10	10	Mexico	25	10	10	Mexico	25
Mexico	25	10	10	Moldova	15	10	10	Moldova	15
Moldova	15	10	10	Monaco	15	10	10	Monaco	15
Monaco	15	10	10	Mongolia	15	10	10	Mongolia	15
Mongolia	15	10	10	Montenegro	15	10	10	Montenegro	15
Montenegro	15	10	10	Morocco	25	10	10	Morocco	25
Morocco	25	10	10	Mozambique	25	10	10	Mozambique	25
Mozambique	25	10	10	Nicaragua	25	10	10	Nicaragua	25
Nicaragua	25	10	10	Netherlands	15	10	10	Netherlands	15
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New Zealand	15	10	10	Nicaragua	25	10	10	Nicaragua	25
Nicaragua	25	10	10	Niger	25	10	10	Niger	25
Niger	25	10	10	Nigeria	25	10	10	Nigeria	25
Nigeria	25	10	10	North Macedonia	15	10	10	North Macedonia	15
North Macedonia	15	10	10	Oman	25	10	10	Oman	25
Oman	25	10	10	Pakistan	25	10	10	Pakistan	25
Pakistan	25	10	10	Panama	25	10	10	Panama	25
Panama	25	10	10	Papua New Guinea	25	10	10	Papua New Guinea	25
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Saudi Arabia	25	10	10	Senegal	25	10	10	Senegal	25
Senegal	25	10	10	Serbia	15	10	10	Serbia	15
Serbia	15	10	10	Seychelles	25	10	10	Seychelles	25
Seychelles	25	10	10	Sierra Leone	25	10	10	Sierra Leone	25
Sierra Leone	25	10	10	Singapore	25	10	10	Singapore	25
Singapore	25	10	10	Slovakia	15	10	10	Slovakia	15
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Slovenia	15	10	10	South Africa	25	10	10	South Africa	25
South Africa	25	10	10	South Korea	15	10	10	South Korea	15
South Korea	15	10	10	Spain	15	10	10	Spain	15
Spain	15	10	10	Sri Lanka	25	10	10	Sri Lanka	25
Sri Lanka	25	10	10	Sweden	15	10	10	Sweden	15
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Switzerland	15	10	10	Taiwan	25	10	10	Taiwan	25
Taiwan	25	10	10	Tanzania	25	10	10	Tanzania	25
Tanzania	25	10	10	Thailand	25	10	10	Thailand	25
Thailand	25	10	10	Togo	25	10	10	Togo	25
Togo	25	10	10	Tonga	25	10	10	Tonga	25
Tonga	25	10	10	Trinidad and Tobago	25	10	10	Trinidad and Tobago	25
Trinidad and Tobago	25	10	10	Tunisia	25	10	10	Tunisia	25
Tunisia	25	10	10	Turkey	15	10	10	Turkey	15
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Uzbekistan	15	10	10	Venezuela	25	10	10	Venezuela	25
Venezuela	25	10	10	Vietnam	25	10	10	Vietnam	25
Vietnam	25	10	10	Yemen	25	10	10	Yemen	25
Yemen	25	10	10	Zambia	25	10	10	Zambia	25
Zambia	25	10	10	Zimbabwe	25	10	10	Zimbabwe	25
Zimbabwe	25	10	10						



## SECTION III

FINANCIAL TIMES  
SURVEY

Most companies in the computer services industry are thriving and producing good profits. Mergers and acquisitions are increasing, however,

prompted, in part, by the shortage of software specialists and innovative projects. Increasingly, entrepreneurs in the sector will be able to claim high rewards on a regular basis, as Alan Cane reports here.

## Merger trend intensifies

THE STRUCTURE of the computing services business worldwide is changing fundamentally, driven by a succession of acquisitions, mergers and management buy-outs, the pace of which, in recent months, has bordered on the frenetic.

Over one period of 10 days in the UK earlier in the year, a new deal was being announced every day.

Among the more significant were:

- Business Intelligence Services (BIS) of the UK was sold to Nynex Corporation of the US for £75m.

- BIS is best-known for developing and marketing an international banking package called Midas which has now been installed in over 400 sites in 30 countries.

- Computer Associates, a leading US supplier of systems software, took over Uccel, also a systems software vendor, in an agreed \$600m merger. The two companies together now form the largest independent software business in the world.

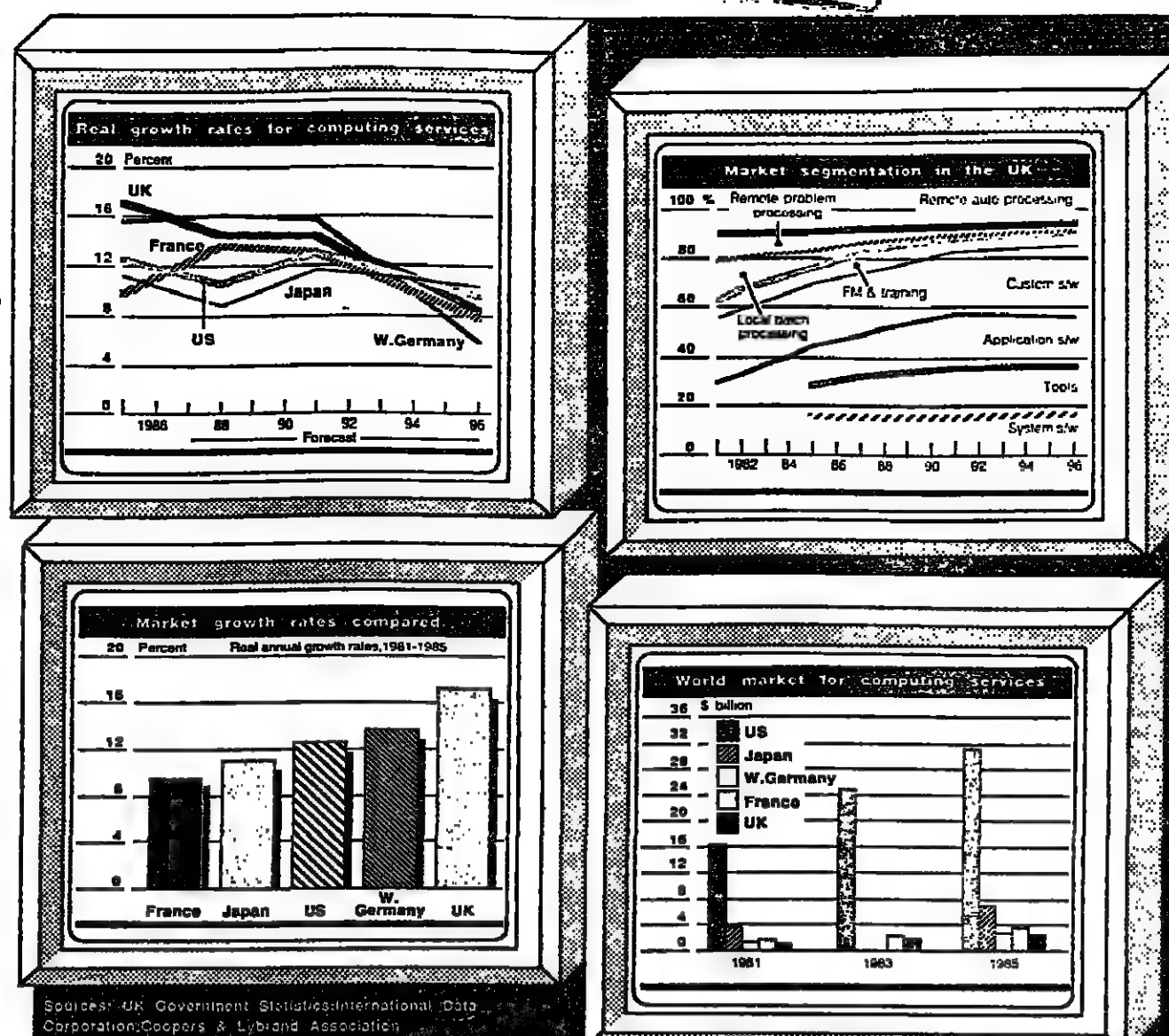
- Intel, the systems arm of the Rover Group, was sold to its management in a deal valuing

the company at £35m. Intel specialises in manufacturing automation systems and in data communications, running one of the UK's best-known value-added network services.

The pace of change was particularly lively in the UK. According to figures prepared by Mr Peter Rowell, managing director of Regent Associates, there were 48 acquisitions involving UK information technology companies in the first half of 1987 compared with 29 in the first half of 1986.

Regent Associates is itself part of the structural change in the industry. Set up as a joint venture between the International Data Group and Mr Rowell, in association with the merchant bank, J. Henry Schroder Wagg, it aims to provide consultancy and financial services to computer services companies looking for buyers or sellers.

A similar monitoring of activity in the US has been carried out by Broadview Associates, a leading investment bank which claims to orchestrate about 25 per cent of all the mergers and acquisitions in the US information technology business, and



Sources: UK Government Statistics; International Data Corporation; Coopers & Lybrand Association

## Computer Services

best-known in the UK for its work on the BIS-Nynex acquisition. (It also engineered the Computer Associates - Uccel merger).

Its latest figures, prepared in collaboration with Adapeo, the US computing services industry trade association, suggest that the end is not in sight in the first six months of 1987, 137 deals worth \$2.1bn were announced, compared with 120 deals totalling \$1.9bn in the same period last year.

Mr George Grodahl, a partner at Broadview Associates, observes: "In spite of the rush to complete deals by the end of 1986 and the dramatic slowdown of merger activity last year, deal-making in the computing services and software business will continue to increase through the rest of 1987."

The rise in deals in this industry is part of a 15-year trend being fuelled by a large and growing number of aggressive acquirers.

His comments about the rush to complete deals by the end of 1986 refer to changes in the US tax laws which made it advantageous for a seller to complete the deal before the New Year.

Increasingly, it seems, entrepreneurs will be able to claim high rewards on a regular basis.

The reasons for the spate of takeover activity are complex in so heterogeneous a business as computing services, but most

experts agree that there is a shortage both of software specialists and of innovation world-wide. Increasingly the larger companies see the acquisition of smaller, but successful competitors as a way of meeting both requirements.

In the US, too, as Mr Bernard Goldstein of Broadview points out, "it is seen as a sign of success, not of failure, when an entrepreneur sells his business at a profit. It is seen as his proper reward."

Examples include US software house Borland International which paid \$37m to buy Ansa Software in July, and Reuters, the London-based financial information group which bought the Canadian software

house, I P Sharp Associates in April for £30.4m.

Borland is an aggressive software company specialising in low cost personal computer software - its first major success, "Sidekick," was a desk-top organiser. Ansa markets a well-regarded personal computer relational database, aimed at the corporate market.

Talent in the services business is not limited to bits and bytes, however - and one of Borland's aims may have been to gain some instant credibility through the appointment of Mr Ben Rosen, a noted venture capitalist with Lotus, Compaq and now Ansa to its credit, to the Borland board.

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The UK industry: looking at the time  
Software engineering: a giant in the eye  
Relational database technology: police find a unifying force  
Computer languages: Cobol, Fortran, and Babel

IBM's new personal computers: making them for the computer service industry  
Choosing software: when to go beyond  
Case study: F & O way ahead in computerised facilities management

Reuters' interest in I P Sharp seems to be chiefly related to its plans to deliver a complete range of financial services to its company world-wide. I P Sharp operates a world-wide datacommunications network, giving its subscribers access to some 130 computer databases of information.

It also has special software for borrowing and lending of securities and for limiting global risk for foreign exchange dealers that would have cost Reuters' time and money to have written for itself.

Mr Rowell of Regent argues that truly innovative products come from small companies which foster the right environment for entrepreneurial thinking. "This factor causes problems for larger organisations which need to maintain a leading edge product line. It means they often have to buy access to the latest technology."

For many acquirers, however, there is simply the appeal of buying into one of the fastest growing of the new technology industries and one which seems to have been only slightly affected by the slowdown in growth in the electronics and computer business.

The argument goes that when customers cut back on equipment purchases, they turn to the computing services industry to make the best use of what they have.

Mr Grodahl of Broadview sums it up: "With foreign companies increasingly buying into the US market and first-time acquirers being increasingly lured by the superior return-on-equity performance of the information technology industry, the brisk pace of merger and acquisitions activity will continue."

The computing services business, nevertheless, is not homogeneous and its component sectors are growing at different speeds.

The archetypal computing services business, computer bureau services, are growing slowest of all at around 10 per cent a year. Bureaux traditionally provided services to customers who had either no computer systems or insufficient computer capacity, but their business has been badly hit by the falling cost of computer hardware, which has made it easier for companies to carry out their own data processing.

Fastest growth rates, of over 20 per cent a year, are seen in software, both custom and bespoke, and consultancy.

The microcomputer software package market, for example, continues to be led by the best selling spreadsheet from Lotus, 1-2-3, which has been at the top of the list for several years now, despite a host of imitators.

The estimate is that it has about 70 per cent of the market for spreadsheets running on IBM personal computers or compatibles.

For the first time, however, it may have serious competition in Excel, a well-regarded spreadsheet developed by Microsoft which until now has been available only on the Apple Macintosh computer. Microsoft has now announced its availability for IBM-type machines. Lotus' response was to announce that a version of 1-2-3 would be developed for the Macintosh.

According to figures produced by IDC in collaboration with the European Computing Services Association, the size of the market in Europe in 1986 was \$23.9bn and the real growth during the year about 19 per cent.

Packaged software grew fastest at 24 per cent with training and custom software close behind.

Figures for the US are harder to establish but according to IDC in 1985, the total size of the US market was just over \$30bn, which at that time was 54 per cent of the world market.

Since then, the decline in the value of the dollar has made it difficult to draw accurate comparisons. In particular, it has made it difficult to estimate the true performance of leading European software houses like CAP Societ Gemini of France, Seicon of the UK or Software AG of West Germany.

Nevertheless, despite problems of measurement, there is little doubt that most computing services companies are thriving and producing good profits.

A worry is that large companies without a presence in information technology, but with little idea of how best to cultivate and sustain organisations which frequently depend on the ideas and energy of a handful of people, may attempt to acquire services companies to secure a part of what is seen as a flourishing business.

The world's stock markets may be prepared to support services companies in a way to which they have not been accustomed in the past, but that does not mean that their understanding of what the business is about runs any deeper than before.

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27/10/87



## Computer languages

## Cobol, Fortran ...and Babel

FOR AN industry that prides itself on innovation and technical change, the development of computer programming languages is a slow business. The majority of commercial programming is still done in Cobol, a language specified in the late 1950s.

A lot of scientific programming is still done in Fortran, a language first defined in 1953 when computers were built from valves. But a large number of new languages have been defined and run since these two high-level languages were first introduced. Some of the new languages serve in niches of applications where their strengths and weaknesses are lauded by an enthusiastic group of users.

Other languages have yet to make their impact and, when they do, will change one of the four major areas in which computer languages are used - commercial, real-time control, systems programming and artificial intelligence (AI).

Software houses operate in all of these areas, but the 7,000 or so traditional computer installations in data processing departments employing more than five personnel are interested mainly in the commercial languages and here the overwhelming leader is still Cobol. No other third-generation language has been able to shake its hold on the regular commercial applications development.

A relatively small group, mostly centred in the UK, use IBM's PL/I, which was standardised in the mid-1970s. The traditional data processing departments, instead of searching through the many third-generation languages for a replacement to Cobol, are looking to fourth-generation languages.

They hope that the reported increases in productivity - as much as 30 to one in the productivity of the average programmer - will be realisable.

But they know that there are drawbacks. They are faced with moving from the standardised world of Cobol where the skills are available and, to an extent, the code can be transported to many machines.

They are moving to a non-standard world where the code may run only on a particular set of hardware because the fourth-generation language is implemented on that hardware.

Mr David Bowers, manager of the Sesame project at the UK software house, Logica, voiced the concerns of most commercial

programmers when he said there is a need for standardisation in fourth-generation languages (4GLs). Like other software houses, Logica does commercial programming for its clients. The Sesame project aims to keep Logica staff up-to-date on developments in technology outside the company.

There are a growing number of 4GLs for commercial systems development. Some, such as Application Factory from RIZ Software, come from the Digital Equipment environment, strengthening Digital's assault on the commercial market.

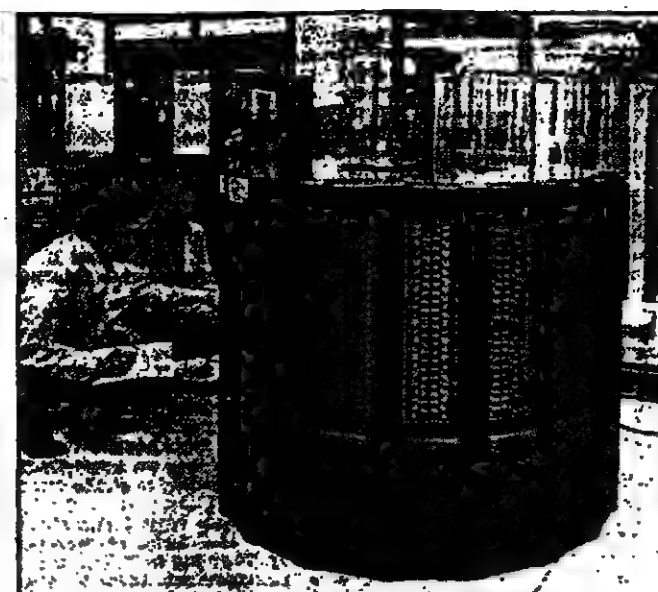
Others are focused on the largest installed base of larger commercial computers, IBM's 370 architecture. IBM also has 4GL products such as Intellect, a query and report generation system using English language-like commands.

The essential elements of commercial programming, it is being recognised, are an interactive session querying a database. Where the use of the database is central, rather than the raw performance of the system, database-query languages are being increasingly used. To some extent there is a standard in IBM's Structured Query Language, implemented first as the database access language for IBM's SQL/DB database under the VM operating system.

Other vendors have taken up SQL and are designing products for mainframes, minicomputers and personal computers that give the database acquirer the same facilities and commands as SQL. Eventually, an international standard definition of SQL will merge from the world's standards authorities. But where performance is vital, SQL or any other high-level approach is being dropped in favour of machine-specific languages offered on fault-tolerant processors.

This move is most developed in the financial area, says Mr Lawford Russell, technical director of CAP. Here the Assembly-type languages offered by Tandem, Stratus, Digital Equipment, NCR and other fault-tolerant computers are being employed. Mr Russell says that the programmer cannot go too far away from the machine's assembler if the features of fault tolerance are needed in the application.

In financial systems they are increasingly important. In other commercial applications the reliability of systems and their



Advanced computer applications create a demand for developments in computer languages. Above: a Cray-2 supercomputer installed at the UK's Atomic Energy Authority at Harwell in Oxfordshire

availability over 24 hours will become common place. This will drive other commercial users down the same path as the financial users into the increasing use of machine-specific languages.

Probably the largest and most predictable change occurring in languages is the movement from earlier real-time control languages to Ada. The military sphere is pushing Ada as the standard programming language for embedded systems within command and control environments and within weapons.

The amount of pressure that the military can exert means that Ada is likely to be used for more real-time applications than just embedded software, for which it was originally designed.

But the movement to Ada is by no means universal nor assured, even in the military sphere. Mr Russell says that Ada is not suitable for some military applications where performance in real-time is crucial.

"You often can not use Ada for the innards of a real-time system. For real-time fast response you have to go to an assembler or a specialist language for a

particular function. Then you go back into Ada for the reporting of faults and the other management aspects of the system."

As a result, the older real-time military languages such as Corba are still well used. But software houses are having little choice but to develop their skills in Ada because of the instructions of the clients. Military systems is one of the areas where the clients of the software houses are generally in agreement.

In other areas different clients demand different languages. Mr Tony Lennard, a director at Systems Designers (SD), reflects the views of other software houses when he says that a large part of SD's work is done in the language specified by the customer.

"If the choice were left to us then I think it would fall on Pascal or C for a general purpose approach," he says. "But the choice is ours only in a minority of cases."

Writing systems programs, the programs that others will use to control the internal working of the computer, is as much driven by fashion as the other areas. APL is still often used to define a system and run some simulations.

APL's characteristics of being able to handle tables and vectors in quick interactive solutions is its real strength. It has a following among some software houses dedicated to its use, such as Dyadic, and in the I P Sharp worldwide network where APL is the main development tool.

A programming language gaining in popularity for systems programming is Modula 2, a direct descendant from Pascal which has won many supporters among software developers. Modula 2 overcomes some of the technical problems of Pascal, such as Pascal's poor implementation of string handling and its weak Boolean logic operations.

Because of its computer science background, Modula 2 is available on the computer scientists' two favourite processors, Digital Equipment's PDP11 and Vax minicomputers. But it is available on little else given the relatively small number of potential users.

More likely, systems programs are written in the assembler language and from the functional routines in library facilities available for specific machines.

In artificial intelligence, the fourth major programming area, the choice is plain: Lisp or Prolog. Prolog has been chosen for Alvey AI developments while Lisp is the favourite in the US.

The popularity of Prolog has been extended down to personal computers by the success of Turbo Prolog from Borland International, the vendor of low-priced personal computing software. AI development teams tend to stick to either Lisp or Prolog, depending on their traditions. Lisp was given a boost in the UK recently when Digital Equipment brought the price of a Lisp system with which to evaluate potential AI applications from £40,000 to £15,000.

Some attempts have been made to combine the strengths of the two. Lisp, for example, is relatively efficient in the use of machine resources while Prolog's input/output facilities are stronger than Lisp's.

Attempts to combine their strengths into languages such as Poplog have not been particularly successful because of the technical differences in how they handle memory. For the foreseeable future, therefore, the developers of AI systems will have to make their choice.

Richard Sharpe

## New computer developments

## Awaiting the impact of IBM's PS/2

LIKE MANY other parts of the computer industry, the computer services business is keeping a wary eye on the Personal System/2 (PS/2), the new line of personal computers announced by IBM last spring. While most companies feel that the PS/2 is bound to have an impact eventually, there is little to report as yet.

"The key phrase is wait and see," says Mr Mike Clark, senior consultant at Logica Consultancy in London. "We are aware of the potential impact but we are waiting until it's there."

One reason that these companies have had little chance to assess the PS/2 is that few models are widely available in the UK. IBM UK says that it has met its scheduled delivery dates for the models 30, 50 and 60, but adds that customer demand has created a "short-term supply-demand imbalance." It expected to remedy this with high volume shipments in September.

The most powerful model, the 80, is not scheduled to arrive until the fourth quarter. Until services companies can get their hands on enough of these machines to see what they can do, they are using existing and proven products in projects that require personal computers (PCs). "To an extent we're carrying on doing what we have been doing," says Mr Richard Dickson, senior consultant in Scicon, the UK services, systems and consultancy company. "Certainly the shortage of supply is a problem at the moment."

The PS/2's specification means that few companies can afford to ignore it. All but one of the announced models are based on something IBM calls Micro Channel Architecture (MCA). This is designed to make these products operate more quickly and efficiently than machines using standard PC architecture.

Although they are based on the same Intel family of microprocessors as competitive PCs, IBM claims greater operating speeds. That means that they should be able to handle more complex tasks more quickly and easily. They will not, for example, be confined to the memory barrier of 640 kilobytes that has been constricting users of large and powerful software programs. They are also capable of producing very high quality graphics.

The displays announced with the PS/2 offer higher resolution, larger character boxes, a wider palette of colours and a steadier image than the display offered with the PC line. That makes the PS/2 a suitable candidate for applications which require the presentation of large volumes of information such as Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing and desktop publishing.

In order to work to their full potential, the PS/2 requires a different operating system than MS-DOS, the software that provides IBM and compatible PCs with instructions about how to work. Such an operating system,

**IBM claims its new machines will handle complex tasks more quickly**

called Operating System/2 (OS/2), is on its way. But the basic version is not due until January 1988 and until it arrives there is little incentive for services companies to incorporate the PS/2 into systems they design for clients. Without software worthy of its capabilities, the PS/2 is little more than a souped-up PC.

"OS/2 needs to be there," says Logica's Clark. Like the PS/2 hardware, OS/2 has an impressive specification. As well as allowing the use of applications software that needs more than 640 kilobytes of memory, OS/2 is supposed to allow multi-tasking. That means that users will be able to switch from using a spreadsheet to writing a report without tedious disk swapping, or exiting from one program in order to use another.

The extended edition of the operating system also provides a communications subsystem to allow devices to exchange information with a variety of other systems, and to link them in networks. A relational database manager is also planned, which uses IBM's Structured Query Language to allow users of PS/2 to perform data retrieval, update and control operations. All

of that is potentially good news for the computer services business.

"The main benefit of the PS/2 is that it gives us another option on PC-based systems for designing solutions for our clients," says Mr Dickson of Scicon. Services companies expect the models that use MCA to provide powerful workstations for incorporation into systems. Of particular interest are the PS/2s networking facilities.

The improved communications facilities will be a significant factor in the way we design solutions for the clients," adds Mr Dickson. If the PS/2 is all it is supposed to be, it will provide a useful base for services companies. Because it is a high-priced product in PC terms it will more easily bear relatively high priced software. And its capabilities should allow companies to build complex, and consequently profitable, systems around it.

Another aspect of the PS/2 that is likely to benefit the services industry is the fact that it supports IBM's Systems Application Architecture (SAA). This is IBM's attempt to reduce the confusion that it has caused by developing a number of product lines with different architectures and operating systems.

SAA is supposed to produce software commonality and portability across three of IBM's major product ranges: the PS/2, the System/38 and 387 computer range and the larger System/370 line. Services companies stand to gain if they can easily adapt software written for one of these ranges to the others. It should give them more scope in system design, not to mention making the actual implementation simpler.

At the moment, the availability of both hardware and software means that it is too early for the PS/2 to have made much of an impact on the computer services industry. But that it will have implications for this business has been clear since April.

Companies like Scicon which do not concentrate on the PC are awaiting developments. "PCs are not part of our strategic direction," Mr Dickson says, "but when it's something as big as PS/2 you have to be aware of it."

Margaret Coffey

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## COMPUTER SERVICES 4

## Choosing the software

## When to go bespoke

IN A handful of UK companies the users of new computer applications delivered by the data processing department cannot tell if the software running the application has been written by in-house programmers or if it is a package.

In terms of the reliability of the application, its time of development and its cost of development, it feels like a package. It is a reliable application, delivered on time and on budget. On the other hand, it has all the flexibility of a piece of software written as a bespoke application, tailored to the specific needs of the internal user.

These users are some of the first to experience the benefits of "bespoke packages", as they are called. Bespoke packages imply a mixture of the best of both worlds: the speed of development of the package and the flexibility of the in-house programming effort.

Bespoke packages also imply an end to the dichotomy between the packaged solution and the bespoke approach, a dichotomy that has split data processing departments ever since packages became a viable alternative for regular data processing applications, such as accounting, in the early 1970s.

But it will be a long time before there is an end to the split. In the meantime, the battle continues, with data processing management having to choose, from project to project, which is the best approach.

The degree to which users choose a packaged solution differs radically depending on the type of processor. In the mainframe and larger minicomputer sector the majority of effort is still directed to writing applications in one of the traditional programming languages such as Cobol or RPL III.

Cobol is still the primary programming language in two thirds of the UK's data processing departments. In the 7,000 or more data processing departments in the UK that employ at least five personnel, the expected expenditure, on average, this year for staff developing applications was £267,000. This was according to an annual survey of data processing managers in the UK conducted for the Price Waterhouse/Computing Opinion Survey.

This staff cost does not include the machine time and resources to develop and test the programs, nor the total office

costs of employing these staff. This contrasts with the £62,000 the average data processing site was planning to spend this year on applications packages. A further £31,000 was earmarked for operating software to run the computer systems effectively.

The balance is clearly in favour of the in-house development staff maintaining and developing bespoke systems in the traditional data processing department.

At the other end of the spectrum, for personal computer users, the picture is entirely different. This is reflected in the sales figures for software of all types in the personal computer market.

If personal computer users were writing their own applications, they would need language compilers to take the statements in the high-level language and turn them into machine codes. But the UK market-research company, Comtext, reports that languages were only 0.7 per cent of the UK personal computer software market in units from January to May 1987 and 0.4 per cent by value.

To put it another way, for each language compiler sold, 150 personal computers were sold. Well ahead, at the top of the list, were general accounts packages with 25.5 per cent of the market by units and 34 per cent of the market by total value sold. These figures show that personal computer users are willing to take standard packages and turn their internal manual procedures round to fit the package.

Personal computer users, however, do not realise the amount of programming they do. For example, many accountants are quite at home writing complex spreadsheet applications which, they argue, are a direct boost to their own productivity. They would not, however, be able to cost-justify their time and effort in building the application as against getting a professional programmer to do it.

Building a spreadsheet application is a form of programming, albeit at a higher level than coding the same application in Basic or Cobol. The style of programming which such personal computer users engage in is very much like the type of programming involved with bespoke packages. There are two essential elements: the close involvement of the user

in the design, and the ability to prototype the application until it has the right feel for that user.

When it comes to large applications which are at the heart of a business, however, a spreadsheet is not enough. It is becoming increasingly fashionable to distinguish between critical applications and historical accounting applications.

Ronald Mackintosh, partner at consultants Nolan, Norton and Company, reflects the emerging consensus when he says "users should prioritise their applications. Where the application is strategic, they should take the bespoke route. Where they are less strategic the user would waste time and effort if the application was custom built."

To use another term increasingly employed: if the application will lead to competitive advantage, then go bespoke. The advantages of bespoke are still there for the user who is willing to manage the complexity of bespoke program development.

First, the application is, by its nature, unique. It is not entirely reproducible for another company because it fits the unique features of the data processing analysis activity.

Second, in general, bespoke programs run faster on any given hardware than a package. Third, the code for bespoke applications remains the property of the user company and does not remain the property of the software package vendor.

There are a group of applications, however, which are critical for the user yet still the user can not wait. In the financial field, Mackintosh says, especially in securities, data processing users are employing application generators which, although they may not get the exact fit between user need and high-performance system first time, they do cut into development time.

Once the hot spots of the application have been identified, then a bespoke programming team can go in and write special sections to perform the critical parts within the overall application.

This is a form of hot prototyping, where the first cut of the system is used right away for the benefits it can bring because of competitive pressure.

Software vendors of fourth-generation application generators are beginning to argue, as a result of their experiences in the City and other places, that

the split between bespoke and packaged software has been overcome.

Fourth generation development tools, they claim, fill the gap, giving the user an application with bespoke speed and flexibility at a package budget. John Chester, software director of RTZ Software, reflects this argument when he says that the debate between the packaged and the bespoke approach is an anachronism.

Mr Chester further says that application development tools can be used by the software house as well as the data processing department. Software houses can build kernel packages in which individual modules can be selected and amended.

Few users yet believe the optimistic messages put out by the vendors of these development packages. The data processing managers point to the fact that the software they write today has to interact smoothly with the software that was written yesterday and is already a proven weapon in the data processing armoury.

Second, they point to the relatively poor performance of generated code as opposed to hand-crafted code in-house. Thirdly, they query how the automation of the analysis process is to be linked to the automation of the process of code development and generation.

Vendors with the latest software-development technology tend to look askance at these concerns of data processing managers. They should, however, realise that these are the genuine issues which will determine the success or otherwise of application generators.

Perhaps, in the long term, processing power will be so cheap that the internal efficiency of the code to run on them will not matter. But in the short term there are always budgets to be met and resources to be allocated.

To this extent, the split between the packaged solution and the bespoke solution will be there for the data processing manager and user for the foreseeable future. The choice between the two approaches will have to be made application by application, according to some rule of thumb such as that proposed by Nolan, Norton and Company and other consultants.

Richard Sharpe

## Case study: P&amp;O's way ahead in facilities management

## Streamlining the system



Mr Trevor Clarke of P&O: "A computing services company must be at liberty to turn a customer away."

WHEN the business climate is mild, companies tend to look for growth and to allow for an expansion in their overheads. In the last two decades, larger companies bought mainframe computers with plenty of excess capacity in order to avoid growing out of them too quickly. Some decided to recoup the cost of that excess capacity by selling computer time to outside companies. After all, the computer was a sunk cost, and any income against it was better than none at all.

The problem is that good DP managers are not necessarily good businessmen. Instead of gradually scaling down their outside business interests, some sought to expand them as additional costs involved. Companies were looking for growth and diversification, and seemed to have no qualms about subsidising the overheads of their computer departments. They even encouraged them to set up separate computer bureau subsidiaries.

Costing such operations on the margin gave companies the short-term illusion of being able to offer competitively priced services. It was only a matter of time before the parent companies realised that they were adding other companies' problems to their own operations.

As the business climate became harsher, they began to get tougher about DP budgets, insisting that any subsidiary must stand on its own feet and pay its way. In some cases, the computing services subsidiary might have been doing very well by all objective financial measures, but the parent may have decided to stick to its knitting and revert to "core businesses."

British Oxygen's (BOC) Data-solve subsidiary, for example, was sold off to Thomson-EMI to help it become the UK's largest information technology company, with Mr Colin Southgate, Data-solve chairman, now in the driving seat at Thomson-EMI.

In 1984, P&O also decided to rationalise its operations to core businesses and to dispose of its computing services subsidiary to its management for around £200,000, although by then P&O Computer Services was already operating on a sound commercial footing.

"Internal data processing is every company's favourite whipping boy," says Mr Trevor

P&O Computer Services, formerly P&O Computer Services. They can never get it right and management is always holding back the purse strings, while users always demand a Rolls-Royce service.

P&O always needed new ships, ferries, containers, transporters and so on, and DP had to fight for funds like all other subsidiaries. As an independent business, we had to find other forms of finance if we could not get the funds internally."

By taking P&O Computing Services into the marketplace back in 1978, the parent company could measure objectively whether it was providing an effective service. It also exposed those parts of the DP organisation which were not performing. By 1984, it was an autonomous operation ready to strike out on its own.

"We were very fortunate in getting the help of Barclays Bank. They put us in touch with a management buy-out guru, David Bagart, who helped us to put up a bid to P&O management. It was not a classical buy-out situation because ours was a profitable company," says Mr Clarke.

"On a 1983 turnover of over £5m, 55 per cent came from non-P&O clients. P&O itself was not entitled to preferential charging - it had to pay the same as everybody else."

"But to make such an arrangement really work, the user has to have the option of going elsewhere like any other normal customer, otherwise the internal DP organisation gets flabby."

By the same token, Mr Clarke believes that a computing services company must also be at liberty to turn a customer away if it feels that certain services or software are better provided from outside. "In the early days, we lost some P&O business, and we also let go of some, but that made us more hungry for business elsewhere."

With sound management and control mechanisms already in place, P&O Computer Services has enjoyed continued growth and profits for the past three years. It now employs over 150 staff, and turnover to the end of September 1987 has grown by 40 per cent to £8m and is expected to reach £7.5m next year.

However, some companies depend on computing services for their very survival and are un-



Mr Trevor Clarke of P&O: "A computing services company must be at liberty to turn a customer away."

vice, a company can own those resources which it needs for its exclusive use.

Companies like Unilever, Avia, the Post Office and Bajan are now using facilities management services. They form part of a growing trend. The marketplace was worth £2.2m in 1984/5 and, according to IDC, will grow to £14.9m in 1989.

The time to switch to facilities management, according to Mr Clarke, is when the computer becomes central to a company's business so that if it goes down, other back-up machines are available.

In July, the 600 Group handed over the running of its computer services to P&O Computer Services in a facilities management deal worth £2m, transferring its 6-Com computing services subsidiary in the process, including its Leeds premises which will be kept in reserve for P&O's planned regional expansion.

The difficulties of attracting the right sort of people, of cost escalation, and of getting the right sort of performance level from its systems were all getting in the way of its mainstream business.

Applications for the 600 Group running on 6-Com's IBM 4381 mainframe were transferred to P&O's own computer facilities in Rickmansworth. P&O identified a number of key individuals within 6-Com who could be absorbed into P&O.

6-Com had a captive audience and no reason to be efficient, so it just charged all its costs to the company. More companies are deciding not to let their DP departments become the tail wagging the dog."

Norik Sadanaka

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THE GROWING application of computers for competitive advantage in the business world will be featured in another FT survey, entitled *Computers in Business*, to be published on Monday, November 2, 1987.

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## LEGAL PROFESSION 2

Austrian lawyers are looking outwards: Judy Dempsey reports

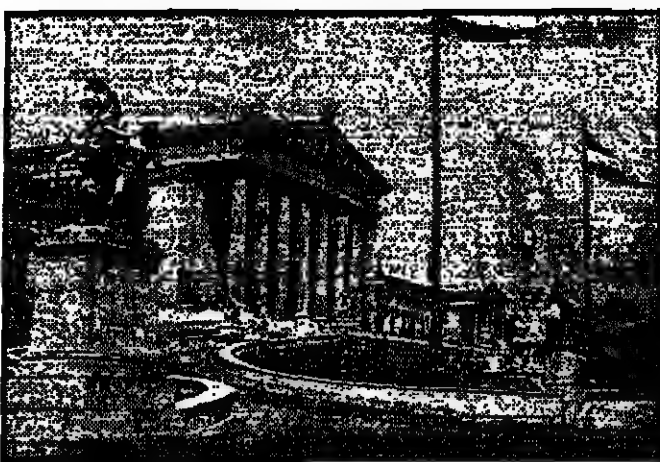
## EC opportunities appeal

LAWYERS WHO visit Vienna may be surprised by the Oesterreichischer Rechtsanwaltskammer, the Austrian equivalent of the Law Society.

The building, located in the heart of the city, a short walk from St Stephen's Cathedral, has none of the elegance or majesty of many of the capital's public and private institutions. Although the Kammer was founded back in 1248, it was bombed during the second world war, and the portraits of former presidents that hang in the committee rooms, the library and along the corridors, are all the only reminders of the old days.

Behind the modest facade of post-war architecture, the Rechtskammer plays an important role in Austrian social life. Like most professional Kammers, or chambers, in Austria, of which membership is obligatory, the Rechtskammer caters for the needs of the country's 2,400 lawyers, of whom over 1,000 come from Vienna.

Apart from its important function of considering pending legislation or any amendments to the law, which the Government



Parliament building, in Vienna

passes to the Rechtskammer for an opinion, the Rechtskammer (of which there is one in each of the nine provinces or Laender) provides lawyers with a social milieu as well as a pension scheme.

Judges, appointed by the Republic, prosecutors, and notaries who tend to do conveyance

work, are, however, excluded. Unlike the UK, there is no division between solicitor or barrister. A lawyer must defend as well as provide day-to-day advice for his client, though the majority concentrate on litigation. "I suppose we are a bit like a general practitioner in the doctor's profession," commented one lawyer.

This partly explains why there are so few lawyers in Austria. It takes a long time before anyone can set up a practice. The normal university course lasts four years, and then each aspiring lawyer must spend seven years as an articled clerk in a registered lawyer's office. Only then, after more exams, can he become a full member of the Rechtskammer. Membership is a prerequisite for setting up a practice.

Setting up the practice is another matter. Austrian lawyers, like many in Europe, are not allowed to advertise. They cannot, for instance, stipulate what special services they provide, though they can notify the Rechtskammer of their area of special interest.

In this context, the Re-

chtskammer, which is independent of the state, acts as a kind of self-regulating institution. Any Austrian seeking legal advice can attend the Kammer, which provides a free legal service each week. If an individual has a particular problem, the Rechtskammer issues a list of lawyers who are specialists in that field. The snag is that the client has no idea how good any of them are. But like most things in Austria, word of mouth and connections are more important than even the slightest suggestion of open competition for clients.

The self-regulating mechanism is especially evident when foreigners try to set up a practice in Austria. They are not banned from opening an office in Vienna - they are simply discouraged, "as one Vienna-based lawyer explained. The Rechtskammer asks if I am an Austrian citizen, if I studied in Austria, if I served my seven years. And if not, well then we are flatly advised to forget the whole idea of opening an office here."

There is, however, pressure to change. Part of the pressure comes from a few Austrian lawyers who have studied abroad and are aware of the need to keep up with developments taking place in the European Community. Pressure also comes, not from Austrian public opinion, which is remarkably passive, but from changing economic and foreign policies. The socialist-led coalition government is seeking closer co-operation with the EC, which some Austrian lawyers believe will eventually provide a catalyst for changing the legal environment in Austria.

"If we want to become more integrated within the European Community, we must become more flexible," says Dr Viktor Straberg, a staunch advocate of a more open Austrian legal profession. He, along with Dr Walter Schuppich, the president of the Rechtskammer, and others, is quietly trying to introduce change.

For them, change would be mutually beneficial to Austria and the EC. "We have a well-trained legal profession. There's no doubt about that. We have expertise to offer to our European counterparts," says Dr Straberg.

But as Austrian companies and banks deal more with international company law and the Eurobond market, Dr Straberg, and other Austrian colleagues, feel increasingly that the profession is not responding to the changing legal needs of these companies, nor providing a thorough service.

"Several banks and companies in Austria now seek legal advice from other foreign firms. Yet those firms are simply not encouraged to set up their businesses here," a lawyer explained.

Some lawyers in Vienna have no hesitation in describing the present system as anti-competition and anti-liberal. They admit that, of all professions, theirs moves and changes at the slowest pace. But Dr Straberg is optimistic. "All I am saying is that we have got to be prepared. If we want closer co-operation with the European Community, it will mean breaking down some barriers, especially in the legal profession. That will take time, but we should not ignore these developments."

IN PRINCIPLE, the Treaty of Rome gave lawyers freedom to practise in any member state of the European Community. They can set up in practice, or offer their professional services on an occasional basis. However, in the context of law, the meaning of practice and services, robs the broad freedom of much of its impact.

No treaty-based freedom can convert an English lawyer into a French lawyer, since what makes the English lawyer is his or her knowledge of the mass of English legal rules, which are quite different from the French rules.

Although the quality may be comparable, the contents of two national law qualifications have no sensible equivalence, except perhaps between countries starting from a similar base (the UK and Ireland; France and Luxembourg).

Current EC proposals suggest that national authorities should admit a foreign lawyer after a period of "supervised practice" and possibly some professional training. Collective agreement on what should be allowed will, at best, take years and will probably improve little on the present need to requalify fully. Made too easy, swift re-qualification processes could reduce standards. At worst, a relaxation of professional restrictions on foreign practitioners in the most insular countries could increase the scope for restraint in those EC countries that show tolerance at present.

France has recently introduced a simple examination for members of other EC bars of at least eight years' standing. On passing, they may be admitted as advocates to a French bar.

France has recently introduced a simple examination for members of other EC bars of at least eight years' standing. On passing, they may be admitted as advocates to a French bar.

The EC directive of 1977 (No 77/249) defined a right to practise as a visiting lawyer in other member states. Each country has to recognise specific sorts of lawyers (avocat, solicitor, Rechtsanwalt etc.). The directive makes no mention of the nationality of the visitors' services themselves - which legal system the services offered by the lawyer are derived from.

To say that the foreign lawyer must be free to practise in the law of the host state would go further than is necessary or expedient, or even desired, by many visiting lawyers. Extended to the right to set up in practice permanently (a separate class of treaty freedom), it could be anarchic.

While there are many lawyers who, often for private reasons, have taken the time and energy to qualify into two or more EC legal systems, most lawyers have moved across a national frontier to practise the law of their home state in another country. Their practice is, of course, filled out by EC law itself (which all EC lawyers may practice) and the international aspects of legal business which made them look abroad in the first place.

The true aim of the Treaty of Rome is surely this freedom. It

Eurolaw is a long way off, says Cella Hampton

## Barriers in way of integration

does not promise to make an English lawyer into a German lawyer, although, in the long term, it could facilitate the conversion.

What practitioners might welcome more than ease of dual qualification is greater freedom to collaborate with local lawyers, keeping their own capacity as "foreign" EC lawyers. This is being pursued by the CCBE, the European Association of Legal Professions.

Restrictions would have to be closely analysed. Resistance by the local profession often arises from the suspicion that a foreign lawyer will circumvent its own rigorous code of ethics and take its work away by a back door. The search for compromise could take a long time, but it seems a more practicable approach than any search for mobility based on dual or multiple qualification.

At an official level, France, like the UK and the Netherlands, has a positive attitude to EC lawyers. There is nothing in the law to stop anyone at all giving legal advice, but they must not hold themselves out to be qualified. If a troubled layman takes advice from the baker or the cab-driver or from an Italian or Japanese lawyer, he is deemed to understand the situation, and treat the advice with appropriate caution.

Certain areas are fenced off for local lawyers in all EC countries, including these "open" ones. Representation in the higher courts and documentary formalities connected with property transfers are the obvious monopolies.

For many "Euro-lawyers", however, these activities are not crucial. Legal advice is a great deal more important. A local profession has sometimes gained new areas of practice, through Euro-lawyers, which have not traditionally been handled by lawyers in the host country.

Linklaters & Paines, one of London's leading law firms, presents an interesting case study in Anglo-French legal practice. Linklaters opened a one-man office in Paris in 1972. It recognised Paris as a major financial centre with great potential for international expansion. Three French banks rank among the 10 largest banks in the world, and in the last few decades France has seen huge investment, with correspondingly huge borrowing.

The law governing international financial transactions is very often English, being the law considered the best adapted and most generally acceptable in this domain. As well as practising as European financial lawyers, Linklaters seek to act as an Anglo-Saxon interpreter for French clients, and as a French interpreter for London and other clients, expressing legal concepts in terms the client will recognise.

Linklaters' Paris office has five partners, two of whom are French lawyers. More than half the legal staff are French lawyers. London members of the firm tend to go for a period of between two and five years, though one partner stayed for 12.

Another big London firm, Freshfields, now has 23 lawyers in its Paris office, opened in 1973 and other leading solicitors represented in the French city include Clifford Chance, Herbert Smith, Holman Fenwick, Slaughter & May and Theodore Goddard.

The Euro-lawyer's natural habitat - Brussels - is host to many more English law firms and a fair number of English barristers.

The Belmont European consultancy, which recently formed a joint venture with Coopers and Lybrand, the accountants, encompasses UK lawyers who specialise in EC law.

On a wider front, Stoneham Langton and Passmore, a London law firm, has set up a "Club" of 16 law firms in EC and non-EC capitals that can act, locally and

immediately on behalf of each other's clients.

The Netherlands is perhaps the most welcoming of all the EC open countries. It allows an advocate to enter partnership with foreign lawyers who are then subject to local professional rules that do not have to be quality.

Except in Brussels, English barristers find more practicable difficulty in becoming Euro-lawyers, since they are by definition sole practitioners. A few have qualified as French advocates. Conversion to avocat is, in theory, open to English solicitors also, but the French ethic code would often be incompatible with a solicitor's practice - for instance, in involvement in the general management of a client's affairs. English barristers qualify - their code is even stricter than the French one.

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## LEGAL PROFESSION 3

A.H.Hermann on National Laws v International Business

## Commerce in search of clarity

INTERNATIONAL TRADE almost always leads to some application of national laws outside of national territories. As long as only the private interests of the parties to the contract are involved, this seldom leads to difficulties.

Indeed, English commercial law is an export product. A Hamburg importer who buys coffee in Brazil according to a "London contract" expects any disputes arising from that contract to be subject to English commercial law and arbitrated or adjudicated, if necessary, in London.

Where there is no agreement about the applicable law and jurisdiction, the courts will, as a rule, apply the law of the country which has the closest connections with the contract, or where its specific performance should take place. The "conflict of laws" or private international law has been developed into an important legal discipline.

It is, however, a quite different matter if conflicting public policies and governmental interests lead to the extra-territorial application of national law. This can bring before the courts of one country traders whose actions were in complete agreement with the law of another country where they took place; or even expose them to requirements and orders which are in conflict with the law of their own country. If they have business interests, assets or subsidiaries in the country engaged in extra-territorial application of its laws, such laws may be enforced against them, or they may be punished for not observing them.

The best known international conflicts of this sort involve the United States, and concern the application of their anti-trust, product liability, trading with the enemy, and anti-boycott laws.

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Both state trading and developing countries, reach some-

times for special legislative measures to withdraw from contracts concluded by their agencies, or by the enterprises controlled by them, when the market has turned against them; and all governments tend to hide behind sovereign immunity when they are called upon to pay debts incurred on the international market.

The blocking statutes adopted by many countries of Europe, as well as Canada and Australia, to protect their citizens and companies against excessive foreign demands for information or punitive damages did not prove quite effective. In many cases the protracted litigation itself represents a trial by ordeal, sapping financial and managerial resources of

flict which the majority wanted the law courts to resolve according to Comity principles, already eliminated by the agreements expressed in the Hague Convention. "It now falls to the law courts to recognise the needs of the international commercial system and the accommodation of those needs already endorsed by the political branches and embodied in the Convention," stated the minority opinion. Unfortunately, as the lower courts are familiar with the federal rules and unfamiliar with the Hague Convention, they will always reach for the first and gladly avoid the second.

The division of the US Supreme Court on long arm laws

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The most interesting development in the field of extra-territorial discovery of documents is the US Supreme Court decision in *Acropastale*. The issue was whether the US court can obtain evidence situated abroad by direct pressure and sanctions which might require the litigants to violate the law of their own country, or whether they are bound to use the procedure prescribed by the Hague Convention for obtaining evidence abroad.

Ignoring the more restrained policy of the US Government, the majority of the Supreme Court gave priority to the direct application of federal rules for obtaining evidence. It admonished courts to pay some attention to conflicting national interests and to weigh domestic and foreign interests before deciding whether the obtaining of evidence abroad should be ordered and forced according to US domestic rules, but it provided no useful guidance as to how such weighing of conflicting interests should be conducted.

This decision was reached by a majority of five to four, and the four dissenting justices were for a preferential use of the Hague Convention. The con-

was apparent already in the February decision in *Anahi*. It split four to four, with one abstention, on the question of the applicability of US product liability laws to a foreign manufacturer of components which reach the US market as an integral part of the product made in a third country. Four justices held the opinion that the foreign manufacturer was liable for the consequences if he knew that the products containing these components would eventually reach the US market. The other four would hold him liable only if he took a positive action to bring the products into the US market.

Another recurrent problem is the freezing of assets in the foreign branches of American banks by an order of US Executive or courts. Such a presidential blocking order was applied recently to some \$131,000,000 held by the London branch of Bankers Trust on the account of the Libyan Arab foreign bank. A High Court judge, Mr Justice Evans, summarily ordered the bank to pay out the money according to the Libyan Bank's order, in spite of the presidential order. The Court of Appeal said that the matter was much too complicated to be dealt with summarily.

It held that the American Bank could rely on the presidential order only if the London deposit account was governed by American law, or if

compliance with the Libyan Bank's instructions required some action in the United States prohibited by the presidential order. The dispute called for clarification of the concept of Euro-dollars and the rules applying to them.

A full trial took place before Mr Justice Staughton, who held on September 2 that the Libyan account with Bankers Trust London branch was governed by English law. As the New York clearing could not be used without infringing US law, the London branch was obliged to pay to the Libyans cash in dollar or sterling notes, and not on the \$151m deposited in London, but also \$181m which should have been, but were not, transferred to London from their New York current account.

The biggest scandal of recent date, however, is the stand adopted by the 22 member states forming the International Tin Council. The operations of the council, designed to keep the price of tin artificially high, came to an end when the council ran out of money and suspended payments, leaving London banks and metal brokers and dealers with debts, amounting to at least \$200m.

A string of litigations, which still goes on, has so far brought little joy to these creditors. The Tin Council has no money and English judges so far have taken the view that the member states are not liable for its debts. They may have a liability towards the council, but this is unlikely to see them because it is in their creature.

The courts also refused to appoint a receiver, who would probably sue the member states. Such an extra-territorial status of an international trading organisation dealing on a UK market is bound to have a boomerang effect unless the law is clarified and changed to provide protection to private traders and banks.

Without it, international organisations are likely to find it very difficult to find business partners in the future. In the meantime, the desperate creditors clutch straws - they even put some good money on the proposition that English courts wind up the TFC, which is an international organisation. However, even such absurd ventures are profitable to the legal profession. No fewer than 24 lawyers, including 12 Queen's Counsel, appeared in court to argue it.

Women lawyers

## A sharp rise in entries

WOMEN SOLICITORS are enjoying improved access to the profession. In the early 1980s they accounted for less than one third of solicitors on the Law Society's Roll. By 1976 this had grown to one twelfth. In 1986, one in five enrolled solicitors was a woman.

Since this figure includes an amalgamation of 2 years when entry to the profession was overwhelmingly male, it masks the much more dramatic movement since 1980. In that year two out of five new enrolments were women. In 1984 the figure was nearly two out of three. In 1986 it was two out of 2.4 - or 44 per cent.

Of lawyers graduating in 1986 who are known to have entered the solicitors' profession, 825 were women and 792 were men. Several City practices have confirmed that they are recruiting about half women, and that these are certainly not destined for the traditional roles of domestic conveyancer and family lawyer.

A random sample of London firms confirms the trend. In Simmons & Simmons, for instance, 19 of the 36 articulated clerks being signed on at present are women. Women account for 15 of 65 articulated clerks already employed, and 36 of 161 legal staff Norton Rose Bottrell & Roche has 22 women among 49 articulated clerks and 46 of 135 assistant solicitors. Just over 50 per cent of articulated clerks at Goldmans are women.

Once launched into a career, success has been more elusive. Only 19 per cent of female solicitors are partners, as opposed to 52 per cent of male solicitors. Of assistant solicitors, 32 per cent are women and only 20 per cent are men.

The overall picture is reflected in individual firms' statistics. Simmons & Simmons has six women partners out of 78; Titmuss Salner & Webb has four out of 32; and Goldmans four out of 23. Norton Rose has five women partners out of 38, all in their thirties and specialising in corporate and financial law, tax and intellectual property. All are married and three have children.

One of the important attractions of legal practice for women

Continued on page 4

Graham Whybrow on commercial practices

## Working with figures

THE APPROACH of commercial practices to business transactions has undergone a transformation over the past 30 years. Probably in no other area of the profession has the break with the past been so complete.

Many of the leading commercial practices in London, Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester have let slip their obsession with private client and property work, and have faced up to the real demand for business law advice that is practical, fast and innovative.

This transformation in advice on commercial transactions can be seen clearly in all the leading City practices, where lawyers advise continuously on corporate finance, new debt and equity issues, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate restructuring.

There are many examples of firms who display this new approach, and have built their reputations on it. Travers Smith Smithways, for instance, is a 21-partner London firm widely admired for its corporate finance expertise, from venture capital deals and USM flotations to contested takeover work. The partners are young and energetic, and much more conscious than their forbears in offering not only a good service, but the appropriate presentation for business transactions.

Other examples of firms with a strong commitment to corporate work are Ashurst Morris Crisp, and the former Clifford-Turner. These two firms are probably strongest in the City for handling management buy-outs.

Some elements in the new approach to handling business transactions are clear enough. They relate to things like working more closely with business clients, paying more attention to commercial realities rather than legal niceties, overcoming the traditional lawyer's aversion to figures and company accounts, displaying a greater willingness to express a strong view on a problem, and being more determined to find a solution.

You can see this approach in the way the partners go about their recruitment. Legal ability, though vital, is not enough without social skills and negotiating flair. In the words of one partner: "You can't have biffins who blink in the sunlight, you've got to feel happy about leaving them at Warburgs."

That they should be attuned

to the merchant banks is no accident either. The takeover business, for example, has drawn in most commercial practices in London, at least on agreed bids. With hostile bids, the work is increasingly concentrated among the top firms, Slaughter and May, Linklaters & Paines, Freshfields, Norton Rose, and Clifford Chance. Most of these bids, certainly for public companies, are prepared by merchant banks, whose corporate financiers know the small number of lawyers with right expertise.

Takeover business is an area where lawyers find themselves part of a team, working alongside accountants and merchant bankers. Every bidder and target will have a law firm to represent them, and particularly when there is a cash alternative, so will the merchant bank. The role of the lawyers will be to help prepare the documentation, to verify it against listing rules; they will advise on structure from a corporation tax viewpoint, handle a defamation action if one emerges during a bid, and also offer guidance in disputes about confidentiality and conflicts of interest.

Increasingly, commercial practices are also advising on the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers which, although it is expressly stated not to be interpreted in accordance with the law, nonetheless draws in lawyers as specialists in rule-handling and interpretation.

The role of lawyers has also been more central since recent cases opened the way to judicial review of decisions by both the Takeover Panel, and the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Lawyers have also been more active since the discovery of the share-support operation used to help Guinness in its £2.5bn takeover of Distillers last year. Bankers were alerted to the Companies Act prohibitions on companies giving financial assistance to buy their own shares, and now rely more on lawyers to help them through the regulatory hurdles, advising, for example, where acceptable market stabilisation ends and prohibited share-price manipulation begins.

Moreover, last year's Financial Services Act, which created a new regulatory regime for investor protection and the conduct of investment business, is also likely to reinforce the Takeover Panel decisions and the City Code with legal sanctions.

For leading commercial practices, international business is still booming. A vast amount is still done through London, governed by English law, even where the parties involved are both foreign and resident in another jurisdiction. Commercial practices have continued to thrive in areas such as shipping, mostly now through the Far East, aviation, international trade, insurance, and reinsurance. Commercial lawyers are brought in both for the financing of deals, and also for any subsequent litigation or arbitration.

In the City, last year's Big Bang marked not only the deregulation of the Stock Exchange but also the consolidation of London as an international financial centre. This yielded even more genuinely international business to the commercial practices.

A large amount of this business has been handled by the top City firms, particularly that of the international capital markets, so much so that firms such as Linklaters & Paines and Slaughter and May are now regarded as among the finest commercial law firms in the western world. This stems from their creation of legal structures for innovative banking "products" - interest rate and currency swaps, Eurobonds, and so on - which have become the sophisticated financing techniques used by all sovereign and high quality corporate borrowers in the Euro-market.

This growth in international work can be measured not only by the range of business, but in the law firms themselves. Many of London's top 50 firms have overseas offices, and even those without them may do considerable business. Some firms have even opened up in Tokyo.

One index of how international business has developed can be seen in the newly merged firm of Clifford Chance, formed in March this year. Few London lawyers in 1987 could have foreseen a firm on this scale, with more than 160 partners and 350 assistant solicitors, running a network of international offices from Amsterdam and Paris to New York, the Middle East, and Hong Kong and Tokyo. The merger has been widely viewed as an aggressive one, putting together two successful firms, and there is every sign that it is well set to lead London law firms into the 1990s.

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## LEGAL PROFESSION 4

A.H. Hermann on the rise and fall of the English legal profession

## Solicitors adapt, so must the Bar

THE TIDAL wave of social change that has flooded the UK in the past 50 years has left the legal profession high and dry, on an island insulated from progress, nostalgically clinging to the past and hoping against hope that its monopolies, privileges and restrictive practices will survive.

Loss of public esteem did not move its members. However, in the past few years it has become evident that clinging to the past is unprofitable and threatens the future of the profession. The impending decline jolted the Law Society out of its stupor; it moves now with some alacrity to catch up with the times. The Bar is still on the defensive, unable to accept that no one can stop the tide and that woe cannot mop up the flood.

What is the social change facing the profession?

First, Law is no longer the exclusive concern of the propertied classes. Mass production and consumerism, the welfare state and urbanisation, the greater mobility of labour required by technological change, produced millions of new potential clients without giving them the means to pay for legal services on a Rolls-Royce scale.

Second, the mass immigration of the post-war years, when the UK was short of labour, transformed large cities into cosmopolitan, multi-racial conglomerations.

Third, UK business and industry became internationalised to an unprecedented degree by the expansion of UK companies abroad, by the invasion of foreign multinationals, by the UK's accession to the European Community, and by the deregulation of the City of London, better known as the Big Bang.

The large City firms of solicitors adjusted to the change. They acquired expertise and are mostly independent of barristers, even when it comes to litigation, as it mostly takes place in the chambers. However, the suburban and provincial solicitors - that is, nearly all, are still dependent on conveyancing, the monopoly of which is slipping out of their hands; on probate, needed only by a diminishing section of population; divorce, which can now be DIY by post; and petty crime, for which the legal aid fund still provides the money.

They suddenly realise that they allowed the accountants, the financial brokers and the business consultants to take their place as advisors of the businessman.

The Law Society, after an internal shake-up under new management, tried to clear the decks for the battle to recover some of this lost ground. It did away with restrictions on advertising and promised some im-

provements in the complaints procedure. It still wavers about allowing partnerships of solicitors with other professions, fearing a takeover of solicitors by accountants.

However, the prohibition of partnership does not prevent accountants hiring solicitors and barristers as their employees. It will not stop building societies and banks doing the same and acquiring estate agents, in order to provide a comprehensive service. To face this onslaught, the profession has to get better trained in law and more aware of what it needs to keep businesses away from trouble. The Law Society appears to be aware of this need, though it has not yet done much about it.

To open new opportunities, the Law Society has come down firmly in favour of wide-ranging recommendations for changes in court organisation and procedure, proposed in the last of the consultation papers produced by the Civil Justice Review, initiated by Lord Hailsham. One of the main planks of the proposal is a link between the County Court and the High Court, so that most cases would start in the County Court and only those presenting difficult legal issues would move to the High Court.

The barristers, opposed to any linkage that would reduce the High Court input, rebalanced by opening discussion on two proposals highly unpalatable to solicitors.

According to the first proposal, in-house barristers employed in legal departments of large companies and institutions would be given direct access to practising barristers in chambers. This would cut out solicitors who now must be asked to "instruct" the Counsel.

The second proposal would allow barristers to appear in criminal court without the presence of the instructing solicitor. As far as their own conduct is concerned, the most revolutionary idea so far discussed by barristers is that they should be allowed to appear in court without wigs.

Less spectacular, but more important, may be the proposal that sets of chambers should be allowed to adopt fee-sharing arrangements, so that juniors could be employed at fixed salaries. This, together with the proposal that barristers should be allowed to advertise their specialities, at least in legal journals addressed to solicitors, breaking the power of the clerks who are now, in effect, barristers' impresarios, taking a fat cut from their income.

It is also proposed that minor cases of negligence or transgressions of professional ethics should be penalised in a summary procedure. The present cumbersome process leaves victims of such smaller transgressions practically without remedy.

However, more will be neces-

sary. The rather toothless Law Observer of the Law Society should be replaced by a tribune with real power to defend the victims of both branches of the legal profession.

There can be no rule of law as long as courts are closed to those who are not poor enough to get legal aid or rich enough to be able to pay for it. Let us admit that legal aid is mainly a subsidy to the legal profession, and discriminates against all people dependent on modest or medium income. The remedy is to:

● Allow litigants and attorneys to agree contingency fees, so that the litigant would pay nothing if he lost and the lawyer would get a percentage (according to a retrospective scale) of the award, if successful.

● Replace the present time fees by fixed standard fees - a policy already embraced by the Lord Chancellor's department.

● Push energetically development towards greater judicial control of pre-trial proceedings and of the trial, making it the judge's job to press for settlement where appropriate. Parties should be required to place their cards on the table and to provide each other and the court with full written information, as a preliminary to oral proceedings which would then take only hours where they now take weeks.

Only a legal profession with a view of the future can rise to its former social importance.

## More women entering the law

Continued from page 3

en is the possibility of flexible working hours and of taking work home. Where available, this tends to be offered outside the mainstream of solicitors' firms.

Barristers work entirely on their own account, so maternity absence and later adjustment of working hours simply mean a total or partial loss of earnings. There is more room for personal choice perhaps than in a regular office, though it is directly reflected in the financial reward.

Working hours, which are more compatible with the school day can, for instance, be achieved by doing criminal work, but this is less remunerative than the more time-consuming civil work. The return to practice after childbirth de-

pends on the loyalty of clients and the tolerance of colleagues. The overall number of practising female barristers has increased, but only to a proportion of 14 per cent, from 13 per cent in 1974. In 1986 the proportion was 5 per cent. There are now 20 women practising as Queen's Counsel out of the total of 558 QC practitioners.

Elevation to the High Court is a sort of last step in a career at the Bar, although the new career is quite different. There are currently three female judges in the High Court (all in the family division) and none above that level.

Choice of the Bar by a woman is a highly individual decision. Far fewer make it than decide to become solicitors, but the profession is, of course, much smaller.

The contrast between the increasing number of women becoming solicitors and the slight increase in the proportion of women practising at the Bar in the last 12 years is nevertheless striking. Of law graduates in 1986 who got first class degrees, only five women are known to have chosen the Bar, compared with 33 women who are becoming solicitors. Thirteen men with first class degrees chose the Bar, while 33 are becoming solicitors. Of all classes of degree, 129 female graduates and 191 male graduates chose the Bar. In other words, roughly one in six women chose the Bar rather than the solicitors' profession, compared with one in four men.

Some Big Eight accountancy firms boast over 70 tax partners with another 400 qualified staff in their tax departments. Although the majority are accountants, they are in increasing numbers recruiting solicitors, barristers and former Inland Revenue staff. Such is the demand for tax expertise, these firms now advertise jobs for solicitors specialising in tax.

Solicitors still tend to be concentrating on the accountants' tax departments, and

Celia Hampton

## Tax advice

## Accountants ahead

ONE STRATEGY for solicitors badly hit by upheavals in the legal profession is to move into tax work.

To a large extent, of course, lawyers have already missed their chance. The market for professional tax advice is now highly developed, and the accountants have taken the lion's share. It need not have been that way. In the US, for example, the automatic choice if you need professional tax advice is an attorney, not an accountant.

In the UK, the pattern of tax advice was settled as far back as the 1930s. Accountants, led into the needs of businesses through audit work, responded much earlier, grappling with emerging taxation as another business cost. Solicitors shied behind their conveyancing monopoly, and fell behind.

Tax work, even in major firms of solicitors, still reflects that historical background, dividing into private client and commercial tax work. Solicitors continue to retain most of the personal estate planning, chiefly because the work ties in with trusts, wills, probate, and real property, and so calls for all-round legal expertise. As a result, much of lawyers' tax work has been directed at taxes on personal estates: formerly estate duty, then capital transfer tax, in turn replaced by inheritance tax. Lawyers may well keep hold of this business, if only because the family solicitor is still seen as the right choice for the delicate, family ingenuities of wills, trusts, and preparing personal affairs in case of death.

It is the other area, commercial tax, that has mushroomed; and that is what solicitors, through short-sightedness and complacency, let slip. Right across the spectrum, from advising small traders, self-employed professionals, up to medium-sized companies and large corporations, tax work is now dominated by accountants.

Some Big Eight accountancy firms boast over 70 tax partners with another 400 qualified staff in their tax departments. Although the majority are accountants, they are in increasing numbers recruiting solicitors, barristers and former Inland Revenue staff. Such is the demand for tax expertise, these firms now advertise jobs for solicitors specialising in tax.

Solicitors still tend to be concentrating on the accountants' tax departments, and

without good reason. It is true that they began with a large computational base, with routine return-making and tax compliance work. And it is also true that solicitors start at the other end, with words rather than figures, deducing concrete situations from legal principles.

But in a modern computerised accountancy firm, the large armies are no longer just crunching numbers. Many are interpreting tax statutes and doing what, on any view, is legal work. To such an extent that it is only on very rare occasions that Big Eight firms refer a tax problem to outside lawyers. With that sort of in-house expertise, combined with financial muscle and aggressive marketing, the big accountancy firms are confident of their market share.

And yet there are signs that the trend could be reversed, at least slowed. Most leading City law firms have developed their own tax services. Whereas 15 years ago, it was unusual to find a law firm with a separate tax partner, now it is common to find a separate tax department, with several partners and perhaps 10 to 15 assistant solicitors.

Many will focus on "pure" tax advice, but other firms have diversified within their tax department. Nabarro Nathanson, for instance, offers all-in advice on areas such as pensions and business expansion schemes, and has started promoting these services through books and brochures for clients.

In a typical tax department, half the work is done for outside clients, and the rest is to service commercial or financial transactions generated by other departments. Most of the internal work is transactional, raising difficult tax questions which require original and creative solutions. The remaining work is direct tax advice for the outside client, often relating to property transactions, VAT, stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax.

Smaller law firms with tax partners receive a fair proportion of instructions from smaller accountancy firms, which may need a second opinion but will lack adequate research services in their own firms.

In addition, there is documentation work, still very much the prerogative of lawyers, and the preparation of tax appeals. Although solicitors have the right to appear before general and special commissioners and VAT tribunals, some instruct counsel

as a matter of course, so they must do in the case of further appeals to the High Court.

For barristers, most tax work has remained the province of a tiny number of specialist sets of chambers, with other Chancery barristers advising on tax in the course of trust, company and property work. Tax has remained an area where barristers are well-suited to sustaining their dual role as specialist lawyers, and as a small corps of advocates. It is, however, noticeable that the tax Bar has not expanded at the same rate as the tax departments of law firms over the same period, which may in part reflect the growing expertise of solicitors and a tendency for them to do the work themselves.

Although both lawyers and accountants are competing for the middle ground of tax planning and consultancy work, the formerly lucrative tax-avoidance schemes have petered out. This is largely due to the House of Lords' decision in *Furness v Dawson*, which blew out the cobwebs from the most artificial schemes which were spun from the 1950s onwards. Elements of transactions whose sole purpose is tax-avoidance with no underlying commercial purpose can now be disregarded. Overall, this has fostered a more robust attitude by the Inland Revenue, who now prefer substance over form in tax cases, and display a greater willingness to challenge in doubtful situations.

Nonetheless, one major factor that has fuelled the need for expert tax advice is the volume and complexity of UK tax law. Even the present government, which has pledged itself to simplify the system, has done little to stem the tide of new tax statutes. Not only are the tax advisers' manuals yellow and orange books of statutes getting bulkier year by year, there is also the proliferating apparatus which goes with them, the tax cases, Inland Revenue statements, and subsidiary tax regulations.

Solicitors may yet start to offer all-in tax advice to commercial clients, building on their expertise with complex estate and property work, and shifting over to commercial taxation. Tax work, probably more than most areas, is an obvious candidate for multi-disciplinary practice - something which accountants already have, to some extent.

Graham Whybrow

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Edited by Dr. A. H. Hermann

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## Canadian Pacific elects finance vice president

BY BOB GIBSONS IN MONTREAL

CANADIAN PACIFIC has appointed George F. Michals, 52, one of the architects of the expansion of Genstar Corporation, as its vice-president finance and accounting and chief financial officer.

He succeeds Paul Clough, 53, who has taken early retirement, the company said. He joined CP Ltd from university in 1959.

Mr Michals, a chartered accountant, was vice-president finance at Dominion Textile Inc.

When he joined Genstar, the real estate and financial services group in 1974 as vice-president finance, Genstar Corp was acquired last year by Inasco Ltd for \$2.6bn.

Later he became executive vice-president real estate and land development as well as chief financial officer of Genstar.

Analysts said the appointment of Mr Michals indicates

that CP Ltd will pay closer attention to the performance of its remaining manufacturing subsidiaries and to development of its Marathon real estate arm, a major Canadian property developer and landowner.

CP Ltd has divested Cominco, its mining and metals arm, and an agri-products subsidiary generating more than \$250m for debt reduction. Its earnings have rebounded in the first half of 1987.

## American Brands strengthens office products division

AMERICAN BRANDS, tobacco and financial services company based in Connecticut, has announced two senior appointments which it says reflects its growing commitment to the office products segment of its core activities.

Mr Robert J. Rubkyser has been elected vice president operations, and Mr Douglas E. Chapman has been appointed to succeed him as vice president, office products. Mr Chapman will also continue as chairman and chief executive officer of the company's ACCO World Corporation subsidiary.

Mr Chapman would also have direct responsibility for American Brands' North American office products operations. These would now report to ACCO World, which also conducts operations in the UK, Ireland and Holland.

Mr Rubkyser, 45, joined American Brands in 1981 as public affairs director and assistant to the chairman and was appointed vice president, public affairs, in 1983. Mr Chapman, 58, has been with ACCO since 1983. In 1972 he led the group in a leveraged buy-out and was appointed chairman and chief executive officer.

## GM Europe post for Sullivan

MR DONALD SULLIVAN has been appointed vice president, planning, of General Motors Europe, the US-based vehicle manufacturing company.

He succeeds Mr Donald Hadden, who is returning to the United States to take over responsibilities for the integration of worldwide systems within GM's international operations.

Mr Sullivan, 44, was previously director planning for Chevrolet Motor Division after



having held several managerial positions in product and production planning at the Buick Motor Division for eight years. He graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor's degree in marketing and management and received a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Detroit.

## Birla to head Indian batteries producer

MR S K BIRLA has been appointed chairman of Chloride India, the major producer of rechargeable batteries in India.

Mr Birla is chairman of several of the largest companies in the Indian corporate sector, including VXL India, Jijyee Cotton Mills and Mysore Cement. He is also chairman of Nalin Industries, Malaysia, Birla Eastern and Tech Trade (Singapore).

Mr Kent Price, chief executive of Chloride Group, has been appointed deputy chairman of Chloride India. Chloride Group has a 51 per cent interest in Chloride India, a publically quoted company with an annual turnover of £40m.

In July, Chloride announced an alliance with the Birlas to take advantage of new marketing opportunities in the sub-continent.

## MicroPro names senior marketing vice president

THE CALIFORNIA-based microcomputer software developer MicroPro International Corporation has named Mr Paul Ricci as senior vice president, marketing.

Mr Leon Williams, president and chief executive, said the appointment was part of a strategy

to launch a series of products and upgrades for existing users and new markets.

MicroPro is a major international developer and marketer of software products and services, including the WordStar family of word processing and communication products.

CITICORP Investment Bank, a unit of Citicorp CCI, has appointed Mr Frederick Dawson to the new position of managing director in its New York mergers and acquisition department. Mr Dawson was previously chairman and chief executive officer of Beneficial Insurance Group, a unit of Beneficial Corporation.

RUUDOLF WOLFF KK, Tokyo, the metals company, has appointed Mr Tadayoshi Tazaki as joint managing director following

ing the company's decision to represent the financial futures trading interests of Elders Finance Group in Japan as from next January.

Mr Tazaki was the first Japanese national to be authorised as an LME dealer in 1971 and has maintained a close relationship with the Exchange.

## Accountancy Appointments



James Capel

## FINANCIAL CONTROLLERS

### Stockbroking · Tokyo and Hong Kong

James Capel is seeking two mature and adaptable accountants to head its stockbroking, treasury, accounting and settlements functions; one based in Tokyo and one in Hong Kong. Reporting to the respective Managing Directors, the Financial Controllers' responsibilities will be to provide leadership, direction, control and guidance on all financial, treasury, accounting and statutory reporting matters and to ensure that the company's back office and accounting functions are performed in a cost-effective, efficient and timely manner in line with business needs.

Candidates should possess:

- a university degree and a professional accountancy qualification gained in the U.K. or equivalent;

- controllership experience, preferably gained in a securities environment but otherwise in the financial services sector;
- the strength of character that is required to participate effectively in a strong management team;
- a genuine willingness to adapt to the local culture; the Tokyo controller will need to acquire a working knowledge of Japanese.

A very attractive expatriate remuneration package will be offered including profit sharing bonus, accommodation and other allowances.

Please reply in confidence, with full career details and quoting reference C7552/L, to Valerie Fairbank.

## Dynamic Opportunity in Financial Services Deputy Financial Controller South of London To £28,000 + Car

Our client, an American company, is amongst the top ten worldwide Financial Services Companies, with revenue approaching \$10 billion and assets of \$21 billion.

The UK operation is currently going through a period of rapid growth and as a result the company has identified the need to strengthen their finance function through the appointment of a Deputy Financial Controller.

The Deputy Financial Controller will be responsible through a staff of 25 for all financial reporting of the UK operation. In particular a detailed understanding of the UK statutory reporting in respect of

traditional life and unit linked assurance will be expected.

The appropriate candidate will be aged 28-35 and a qualified CIMA/ACA/ACCA. Experience of the life insurance industry is essential together with a strong personality, good man-management skills and "shirt sleeves" operating style.

Interested candidates should submit their C.V. to Wayne Thomas, Executive Division, at Michael Page Partnership, Cynnet House, 45-47 High Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8AG.

**Michael Page Partnership**

International Recruitment Consultants

London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide  
A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC

## KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock

Executive Selection and Search  
9 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR.

## POTENTIAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

**21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

## Have you left this date free?

**Institute of Directors 6.00pm - 8.30pm**

If you are aged 26-30, a graduate accountant or MBA with relevant financial or accounting experience, you are invited to come along and learn the facts about a move into management consultancy. We have invited representatives from Deloitte Haskins + Sells and the Internal Business Consultancy of Shell to give you an informal presentation about the practical aspects of life as a consultant.

Places are strictly limited, so early application is essential. Entrance is by ticket only.



- ☐ I would like to attend the Seminar on 21st October
- ☐ I cannot attend but would like a copy of the Management Consultancy Career Pack

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_  
Office \_\_\_\_\_ (if different)  
Date of Qualification \_\_\_\_\_

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY RECRUITMENT DIVISION  
**DOUGLAS & LLAMBIAS**  
LONDON · LIVERPOOL · MANCHESTER · ABERDEEN · EDINBURGH · GLASGOW  
DOUGLAS & LLAMBIAS ASSOCIATES LIMITED, 410 STRAND, LONDON WC2R 0NS  
TELEPHONE: 01-836 9501

## Financial Planning and Analysis Manager

### HOME COUNTIES

Our client is a major division of one of Britain's most prestigious companies and commands a pre-eminent position in its important sector of service industry.

In reorganisation, a Financial Planning and Analysis Manager is to be appointed, reporting to the Divisional Finance Director, who will be responsible for a team of financial analysts supplying expertise and recommendations on the financial implications of future investment plans and strategies. In addition, there will be important work on the Division's Business Plan and the Annual Budget consolidation.

Candidates, male or female, will be qualified accountants or

business graduates who have had management experience in financial analysis as well as investment appraisal. An essential quality is the ability to communicate at all levels and to plan key tasks effectively.

An attractive remuneration package to be negotiated includes a salary in the region of £25,000 plus car and other benefits associated with a major Group.

Please reply in complete confidence enclosing full career details to Michael Hann, Bull Thompson & Associates Ltd, 63 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4JX quoting reference 1269.

**Bull Thompson**

CORPORATE AND RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Yorkshire  
£25,000  
+ Bonus  
+ Car

Our client is a household name UK plc with a £multi-million turnover operating on a wide geographical basis. It is committed to both organic and acquisitional growth and has an outstanding track record of recent success.

They wish to appoint an Accounting Manager who will head a department of 50 with responsibility for the production and interpretation of management information both at Head Office and operational level. Key areas of involvement will include the continued development of the company's management information systems, the direction of a team of high calibre qualified and part-qualified accountants in addition to participating in the company's financial strategy and contributing to the ongoing profitability of the business. Career prospects are excellent.

Candidates aged 28+ will be qualified accountants (ACA, CIMA, CACA) with well developed man-management skills, preferably gained in a substantial UK Group, in order to direct and motivate a large department. Individuals will also possess personal presence, highly developed communication skills and commercial awareness in order to operate successfully at Executive level in a major Group.

Initially please write with full career details to: Steve Gerlick, Lockyer, Bradshaw & Wilson Ltd, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Please list in a covering letter all companies to whom you do not wish your application sent.

**LBW**

LOCKYER, BRADSHAW & WILSON LIMITED  
A member of the Addison Consultancy Group PLC



## CHIEF ACCOUNTANT-DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

South Coast £25,000 + car + bonus

Our client, a £25 million turnover company, is part of a group engaged in the manufacture and supply, throughout the world, of a wide range of healthcare products. The company has a history of profitable growth and has achieved success in both domestic and export markets.

Due to growth and internal promotion, the company is now looking for a Chief Accountant (Director designate). Reporting to the company's Managing Director and supported by a total staff of 25, the individual who is appointed will be responsible for all financial aspects and will be actively involved in the formulation of business strategy.

Applicants should be qualified accountants with five or more years post-qualification experience gained, at least in part, in a manufacturing environment. Individuals who

have been exposed to a medical, plastics and/or marketing led environment will be at an advantage. Professional skills should cover financial and management accounts, man management, knowledge of export procedures and familiarity with computerised systems.

For the commercially minded accountant with drive and good inter-personal skills, career development prospects within the group are excellent.

The remuneration package includes a substantial bonus and the usual executive benefits. Relocation assistance to this attractive part of the country will be available and applications from all parts of the country are welcome.

Please write in confidence with full career details, quoting reference S7544/L, to Cathy Rowan.



**Peat Marwick McLintock**

Executive Selection and Search  
9 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR.



## Keep Pace with Oilfield Developments

Part of the substantial, diverse and well established Kerr McGee Corporation, Kerr McGee Oil (UK) PLC already enjoys production revenue from the Beatrice oilfield and Brae complex. It has a share of the Ivanhoe/Rob Roy development and has played a leading role, both as operator and partner, in identifying several very promising discoveries. Poised for major expansion, it provides a highly exciting working environment with real prospects for accelerated advancement. Its immediate need is for several finance professionals who are keen to contribute to a significant project from its inception.

### Taxation Adviser

Take charge of day to day taxation matters for the Company and its subsidiaries with involvement in both planning and compliance in the UK and internationally. Currently working in an oil company, the profession or the Inland Revenue, you have several years' experience of oil taxation.

### Joint Venture Coordinator

Enjoying significant scope, coordinate and supervise all joint venture accounting with the emphasis on building an integrated financial system. An accountant with c 5 years' post qualification experience, you have worked mainly in oil and gas exploration and production.

### Payables Accountant

Supervise payables, including monthly corporate accounting and assist with systems development. Qualified by experience rather than qualification, you have around 10 years' relevant experience.

All positions are London based and require computerised systems experience and the ability to cope and keep pace with rapid corporate development. Salaries and benefits are both competitive and negotiable.

Please telephone or write (in complete confidence) with CV, to Sue Jagger, Simpson Crowden Consultants Limited, Specialists in Executive Search & Selection, 97/99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Tel: 01-629 5999.

**Simpson Crowden**  
CONSULTANTS

## FINANCIAL DIRECTOR Machinery Manufacture

EAST MIDLANDS

Up to £25,000 + Car + Benefits

Our client, a subsidiary of an international group who are world leaders in the manufacture, sale and distribution of high performance machinery, is seeking to appoint a Financial Director.

Reporting to the Managing Director on site the successful applicant will have overall financial control and will provide an important contribution to the strategic planning and direction of the Company. Ongoing enhancement of the computerised systems is of paramount importance.

Ideal candidates will be qualified accountants

aged 30 plus currently working within an engineering manufacturing environment and must be commercial with a hands-on approach. Self motivation and good inter-personal skills are vital prerequisites for this challenging role.

An attractive negotiable basic salary, prestige car and bonus scheme are offered, together with the usual fringe benefits associated with working within a major company, including relocation expenses where necessary.

Please send a full CV, including current salary, and quoting reference No.207, to Maureen A. Ingle at:

**Ashley Recruitment**

THE GRAFTONS, STAMFORD NEW ROAD, ALTRINCHAM, CHESHIRE, WA14 1DQ. TELEPHONE: 061-927 7290

## Group Financial Controller

London Area  
£27 - £30,000 negotiable + car

A leading construction materials group has created a new senior financial position to help introduce and implement ambitious plans for growth.

The group is widely diversified and multi-divisional. This is an exciting opportunity to work closely with senior management at head office and in the divisions to develop plans for both organic growth and acquisitions. Reporting to the Group Finance Director, line management responsibility will be the control of a highly sophisticated

accounts function with 80 staff including financial and management accounting and credit control.

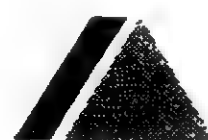
Candidates must be graduate accountants, ideally chartered, in their mid-thirties having gained substantial senior management experience in a large multi-site industrial group. An ambitious, commercially aware approach plus the ability and confidence to create and communicate ideas is essential.

An attractive salary package will

be negotiated with the successful candidate. Prospects for further advancement within the group are excellent.

Please write enclosing a full CV and salary details quoting reference MCS/2003 to Christopher Bainton, Executive Selection Division, Price Waterhouse Management Consultants, No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL.

**Price Waterhouse**



## YOUNG ACA - A SENIOR ROLE IN STOCKBROKING SERVICES

c.£30,000, Generous Bonus & Executive Car  
City

Broker Services Limited is a major new joint venture between Barclays Bank and NMW Computers. Formed in May, 1986 to provide administrative and accounting services to securities houses on a worldwide basis, it has already reached its three-year target and increased its turnover eight-fold since formation.

As a result, they require an ambitious accountant to enter the finance department as number two. Initially establishing budgetary and control procedures, the position will involve considerable liaison throughout the company, together with involvement in high level special projects. In the short term the emphasis of the role will shift towards risk and balance sheet management.

Aged 28-35, you must have four/five

years post-qualifying experience, probably in a similar rapidly changing environment, and ideally be an ACA. You should be prepared to become involved at all levels and should not be afraid of long hours and hard work. Regular UK travel is envisaged.

In return for your commitment, an excellent salary is offered, together with an executive car and a valuable range of benefits, including six weeks holiday, pension scheme, family health insurance and preferential loans. Prospects exist for very rapid career advancement as the company's phenomenal expansion continues.

For further information, please contact Jane Easton on 01-404 3155 or write to her at Alderwick Peachell Partners Limited, 125 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6QA.

**Alderwick  
& Peachell**  
PARTNERS LTD.

**BROKER SERVICES  
LIMITED**

## Audit Seniors for international finance operations

£18,000 to £23,000 neg + car

Based Watford

As a major US-based multi-national corporation, with European sales in excess of \$300 million, Parker Hannifin is a world leader in motion control technology. Rapid growth, heavy investment and an outstanding financial performance have all contributed to our success and, as a result, the opportunities for career growth in such a dynamic and expanding environment are exceptional.

At our European headquarters in Watford we require a number of high calibre Audit Seniors to carry out a wide variety of projects on behalf of operating locations, including year end, investigative, financial and operating reviews. This will involve travel throughout the UK and in Europe.

We're looking for men and women who are very much business managers, able to make a major contribution to overall operational effectiveness. In addition, knowledge of US accounting principles and an ability to apply tight financial controls in a highly computerised environment would be useful. If you speak a foreign language, preferably German, so much the better, although language training will be given if necessary.

Aged in your mid to late 20's, you should be a graduate with a CA or CIMA qualification and at least two years' auditing experience, ideally gained with one of the top 8 firms, or a blue-chip international company.

If you have the high level of professional competence to make an immediate and measurable impact on our continuing success in European markets, there are excellent opportunities for rapid career progression both in finance and line management roles.

Salary will be negotiable up to £23,000 plus car and an attractive benefits package which will include relocation assistance where appropriate.

Please write with full C.V. to Leszek A. Marciniowicz, Personnel Manager (UK), at Parker Hannifin, Star House, 69-71 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts WD1 1DQ, or phone Watford (0923) 246611 for an application form.



## LONDON APPOINTMENTS

Financial Analyst c£24,000 Chief Accountant £25,000

If you are a graduate accountant, aged 25-32, seeking a high-level analytical role involving key strategic decision-making and close liaison with senior operating management, then this highly active international oil company would like to talk to you. You will be responsible for providing a crucial forecasting service, annual plans and operating data information.

Ref SEW 3024

One of the largest and most successful international oil companies is seeking a young (aged 28-32) qualified accountant to report directly to the Financial Director. In addition to providing a full financial and management accounts function for the UK operation, you will also be responsible for developing and enhancing an extensive range of financial controls. Highly visible, and essential for the company's growth, this role will give you outstanding career development. Ref DFP 3026.

To find out more about these appointments, or the range of opportunities currently available, please contact Stewart Wright, Manager, Accountancy Appointments, Telephone 01 408 1694 (out of hours 01 851 2502)



**Management Personnel**  
2 Swallow Place, LONDON W1R 7AA.

## Management Accountant

South Coast

c.£22K + Car

Our client is a fast growing high-tech business, enjoying considerable success in advanced electronic systems worldwide.

They are now looking for an experienced management accountant to head a small team which will provide an important part in the winning of key tenders and the evaluation of strategic options. Reporting to the Finance Director you will work closely with line managers to bring financial skills to the Business in the areas of tendering, export finance, product planning and market entry planning.

Aged 30-35 you will be a full member of a major accounting body, you must have 5 years' relevant experience ideally in a high tech environment, including 2 years as a senior member of a finance team. Proven management accounting skills are essential.

Starting salary circa £22,000, prospects are excellent and an attractive benefits package including generous holidays, BUPA, company pension scheme and relocation assistance where applicable.

Confidential Reply Service: Please write with full CV quoting reference 2109/AM on your envelope listing separately any company to whom you do not wish your details to be sent. CVs will be forwarded direct to our client, who will conduct the interviews. Charles Barker Recruitment Limited, 30 Farrington Street, London EC4A 4EA.

**CHARLES BARKER**  
ADVERTISING-SELECTION-SEARCH

## FINANCIAL DIRECTOR DESIGNATE PROPERTY SERVICES

West London c£25,000 + bonus + car

A rapidly expanding multi-discipline professional practice involved in all aspects of property development, design and service, is seeking a dynamic young Chartered Accountant to assume responsibility for the overall financial systems and controls. Situated in pleasant modern offices in Twickenham, this plc group of companies has recently streamlined its management structure, and is seeking a self-motivated individual with the ability to guide the group into the next stage of its planned development, which includes a listing of its shares.

Probably aged 28/35 the candidate will preferably have had experience in related areas, but this is not so important as enthusiasm and drive, the ability to communicate with other professionals, and the willingness to form part of an entrepreneurial management team committed to rapid growth and expansion. A familiarity with micro-computers, and the ability to use computers as an aid to planning and management control is essential.

The remuneration package is negotiable and will include a performance-linked bonus and the prospect of share options in the future.

Interested candidates should write, enclosing a comprehensive C.V. to:

D. Hopkins  
Price Waterhouse  
Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor SL4 1BB



## INTERNATIONAL AUDIT PRACTICE

Exceptional opportunities for career advancement and capital accumulation

OMAN • SAUDI ARABIA • CYPRUS

### AUDIT PROFESSIONALS

£24,000 upwards, Tax Free + Extensive Benefits

Touche Ross Saba & Co is the largest nationally based professional audit practice in the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean area, having 27 established offices and representation in 25 countries.

The firm, established for 60 years, employs professionals from Europe, North America, Asia and the Middle East and is currently seeking to appoint high calibre audit personnel with potential for promotion at its offices in Oman, Saudi Arabia and Cyprus.

Appointees must be capable of taking charge of major audits. Work experience is of a high quality allowing individuals exposure to an extensive portfolio of national and international clients especially in the financial sector, insurance, construction and commerce. Successful candidates will have a high level of academic achievement (ACA, ACCA or CPA) and strongly developed personal qualities which are essential to meet the high standards required.

Candidates for the position in Jeddah will be expected to have a basic knowledge and experience of EDP audit practices for which an additional premium will be paid.

The position based in Cyprus involves extensive travel and fluency in French is essential. Advancement and earning potential in all positions are excellent. Comprehensive benefit package includes accommodation, transport, home leave, training courses, etc.

Please telephone or write with career details to

W Martin Dyes

SABA & NAGLE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

135 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3LB.

Telephone: 01-221 2996

## SABA AND NAGLE INTERNATIONAL

## WLG Williams Lea Communications

### Financial Controller

City c£22,500

Williams Lea Communications Limited, formed in 1985, provides a comprehensive office support service 24 hours a day to the City. The Company, part of a rapidly expanding group in printing and communications, now seeks to strengthen its finance function.

Responsible to the Managing Director, the job will include the preparation of period and statutory accounts, short and long term plans and systems development.

Candidates should be qualified accountants aged 24-35, have a good financial and management accounting background, an interest in developing management information systems and the self-motivation and flexibility required in a fast growing environment.

Please reply in confidence with a comprehensive curriculum vitae including details of current earnings and a daytime telephone number to D. E. Shribman.

## HUDSON SHRIBMAN

THE COMPLETE FINANCIAL SELECTION SERVICE

Vernon House, Sicilian Avenue, London WC1A 2QH. Tel: 01-831 2323

### UNQUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

Mid 20's required by leading motor vehicles distributor to assist company secretary (must be currently studying) - salary negotiable.

Send CV to:

Company Secretary  
Broadfields Garage  
Limited  
Standard House  
Cookfosters, Barnet  
Herts EN4 0DH

Busy 2 partner firm of Chartered Accountants in North East London require 2 recently newly qualified Chartered Accountants to progress quickly to partnership.

Top salary and benefits.

Telephone:  
S. P. Putnam, Ashfield  
01-530 5037.

## Financial Controller

To £23,000 plus benefits  
Central London NEW POSITION

Our client is a very colourful and highly profitable company which specialises mainly in quality photographic work for some very prestigious organisations.

The environment is one of creative freedom and expression. Open plan and open minded. It's young and progressive, yet relaxed and artistic. More importantly, it's very productive, yielding excellent results and expanding and diversifying rapidly.

There is now an urgent need for an exceptional Accountant to take responsibility for all financial management accounting, systems development and controls. As the most senior Finance Professional, you will work closely with the Directors and be very involved in the business itself, contributing your ideas for its continuing growth.

You will need sharp commercial acumen and experience, a hands-on approach and the ability to function as an integral team member and leader.

You will be aged 25 plus, and seeking an employer who will recognise and reward your efforts in developing the group.

Send your details immediately, quoting ref. U57 to  
Le Tisser Executive Selection, By House,  
37 Dover Street, London W1X 3RS.  
Tel. (01) 409 1343 (24 hrs).

LE TISSIER  
Executive Selection

## Group Accounting Manager

c.£35,000 + Car

This Group is a £ multi billion UK international corporation. It holds a powerful position in its industry and is expanding internationally by acquisition and joint venture. The top management, which is clearheaded, energetic and very positive in outlook, provides a stimulating environment in a small and unbureaucratic headquarters unit in Central London.

The role of Group Accounting Manager requires an individual with the personal skills and experience to manage and develop a team of 10 people through this period of group expansion. The technical requirements include the range and depth of knowledge to meet the external reporting requirements of statutory and regulatory bodies in the major developed countries, to control the financial reporting and consolidation processes associated with a major blue chip organisation and to provide technical leadership across the Group.

Applicants must be graduate chartered accountants with management experience gained in the commercial environment of large company headquarters. Age guide 30-35. Location C. London. Please reply in confidence quoting ref. L 326 to:

Margaret Mitchell  
Mason & Nurse Associates  
1 Lancaster Place, Strand  
London WC2E 7EB  
Tel: 01-240 7805

Mason  
& Nurse  
Selection & Search

## GLOBAL CAPITAL MARKETS

Our client, a subsidiary of a leading Top 50 International bank has recently formed a London based securities operation and now seeks to recruit two key individuals:

Age 25-35 £ negotiable  
CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

The position will carry the responsibility for the design compilation and reporting of all financial information. The successful candidate will be a qualified accountant preferably with financial services experience. The personal qualities sought are a high degree of enthusiasm and commitment and a willingness to be extensively involved in a rapidly expanding operation. Efforts will be recognised by a substantial earnings package.

For further details please telephone Richard Parnell (Chief Accountant) or Anna Marsh (Head of Settlements) on 01-930 7850, or write giving brief details to the address below:

ROBERT WALTERS ASSOCIATES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

66-68 Haymarket London SW1Y 4RF Telephone: 01-930 7850

Age 20-mid 30s £ negotiable  
HEAD OF SETTLEMENTS

The experience sought is likely to have been gained over a three to five year period within an international trading organisation.

The character profile required is one of enterprise and assertiveness as there is a fundamental need to ensure acceptable procedures and effective controls.

Some previous supervisory experience would also be preferable since the supervision of a number of junior staff is envisaged for the near future.

## MIYAN FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

Substantial Benefits Package Available

Our Client is a group of companies whose principal activities are spread over the U.K. and abroad in the construction industry but with recent diversification into manufacturing. Further significant expansion in England is imminent. Turnover in the current year will be about £25m.

A Group Director of Finance is now required to join the main Board of the company to provide financial and commercial support.

The position of Financial Director will carry total responsibility for the overall financial management of the group with responsibility for reviewing and analysing the financial information of the subsidiary companies.

In particular:-

- Strategic Plans
- Monthly Results and Board Commentary
- Liaison with Banks and Third Parties

- Capital Expenditure
- Working Capital Control
- Acquisition Identification/Recommendations
- Computerisation

Candidates should be qualified accountants with a strong background in technical accounting and strategic analysis, together with highly developed interpersonal skills and commercial awareness. It is unlikely that applicants earning less than £25,000 or who are under 30 will be able to demonstrate the range of experience sought.

Please reply to Alastair Browne, in strict confidence with details of age, career and salary progression, education and qualifications and quoting reference number AWB/1061.

Deloitte  
Haskins + Sells  
Management Consultants  
10 High Street, Belfast BT1 2BL  
Telephone No. (0232) 246869

## Company Secretary

with Treasury Specialism

Construction and Development

to £35,000 + Share Option + Car - South West

This plc is a substantial and successful contractor, house-builder and property developer operating mainly in the South and West of England.

Reporting to the Chief Executive with responsibilities to the Chairman and the Board you will be part of the company's inner sanctum of management and play a leading role in confidential directorial matters including future strategy, company acquisition and all the legal aspects of the business. This multi-faceted role also requires you to be involved with treasury, banking relationships, financing procedures and money market dealings, as well as controlling the more normal

functions—insurance, pensions, liability law, property administration.

Candidates should be aged 35-45 with ACIS or either a law or accountancy qualification. You must have several years' experience in a similar environment which will have included working for a quoted company. Knowledge of the industry sector is not essential but would be useful.

An exceptional salary is offered reflecting the importance of the position and the calibre of the person being sought. Please write or telephone for an application form, or send a detailed CV in confidence to R.H. Southwell at the address below quoting ref. PBM/1756/RS.

PA Personnel Services

Executive Search • Selection • Psychology • Remuneration & Personnel Consultancy

6 Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3DJ  
Tel: 021-454 5791

## KATUN (UK) LTD CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

£18k + Bonus + Car + Benefits

Katun Corporation is the World's largest Independent Distributor of Spare Parts, Consumables, Accessories to the Office Automation Industry.

An opportunity now exists for a Young Qualified (ACA) person to become Chief Accountant with specific responsibilities for Katun (UK) Ltd.

Based in Heston and reporting to the General Manager and Financial Controller (USA) the successful Candidate would have had at least 3 years' practical experience since qualifying. You should also be able to demonstrate good management skills as well as have experience with on-line computer systems and IBM PC. This is an exceptional opportunity for a young and energetic person who wants to make a major and positive contribution to the growth and success of a dynamic organisation.

Please write with full cv to:  
Jan Byrne, Personnel Administrator  
KATUN UK LTD

Airlinks Industrial Estate, Unit 4/5 Spitfire Way  
Southall Lane, Heston, Middx TW5 8NE  
or alternatively call: 01-561 0667 for an application form

## Hanson Trust PLC

### Financial Comptroller

Hanson Trust PLC requires an ambitious Financial Comptroller to join its small central management team based in London. Hanson Trust is one of the foremost growth companies of the last two decades and is committed to a continuation of this growth both organically and by acquisition in the UK and the USA where half the group's businesses are situated.

Many of the senior management positions in the group have been filled in the past from members of the central team and the position therefore offers enormous scope for an ambitious and energetic accountant.

The successful applicant, male or female, will be a chartered accountant, 30-35 with a good academic background and progressive experience in practice and industry. A substantial salary will be paid and generous fringe benefits, including car, are available.

Applications should be made to:

The Financial Director,  
HANSON TRUST PLC,  
1 Grosvenor Place,  
London SW1X 7JH.

## Accountancy Personnel

Placing Accountants First

sponsors of

### THE 1987 YOUNG ACCOUNTANTS CAREER FAIR

November 12th 1987

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3i • GKN • JAMES CAPEL • BP

Plus: Personal Appearance by ARNOLD BROWN, winner of the 1987 Ferrier Award at the Edinburgh Festival. The only Scottish-Jewish ex-Chartered Accountant stand up comedian in the world!

For personal invite please phone: 01-638 8091

or write to: The Career Fair Manager,  
63/65 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BH



## AUDIT & COMPLIANCE MANAGER

### International Bank

to £35,000 plus full banking package

Our client, a bank established for over three centuries, is now one of the largest commercial banks in its country. The London branch, originally established in 1924, offers a full range of banking services including money market/foreign exchange, deposits/remittances and corporate lending.

Planned expansion and the current regulatory environment have created a need for the new position of Audit and Compliance Manager. Reporting to the Senior Deputy General Manager, the role will involve establishing a new audit function and ensuring that the bank complies with Bank of England and other

regulations. The role will broaden in the future to include more general accounting and financial control and advice. Candidates should be qualified accountants who have gained sound knowledge of banking and the current regulatory requirements. They should be able to establish their professional credibility quickly within the branch and with the Bank of England. A knowledge of computerised banking and accounting systems is essential, as are excellent communications skills. Please write in confidence, enclosing full career details, to Jane Woodward quoting reference M6620



**Peat Marwick McLintock**

Executive Selection and Search  
9 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR

## Financial Director

Home Counties  
c. £35,000 + car  
and performance incentive

One of the foremost names in financial services wishes to appoint a Financial Director to take a leading role in the planning and development of its future growth strategies.

The company, part of a major and highly regarded plc, has enjoyed dramatic growth to become a leader in the field of mortgages, life assurance and related services. To build further on their impressive record this new appointment, in addition to taking full functional responsibility for the financial team, will play a key part in the provision of strategic advice on all future

developments and diversifications. Candidates must be qualified accountants, ideally Chartered and in their mid-thirties, who have already reached a senior and influential position in a fast growing company preferably in the financial services sector or alternatively in consumer goods. Experience of computer based accounting systems plus the personal qualities of drive and initiative are essential. The position requires a commercially astute decision-maker who can bring foresight and judgement to bear in a highly innovative and market

responsive environment. Salary is negotiable and the generous benefits package includes an excellent performance incentive scheme. There are exceptional prospects for further advancement within the group.

Please write enclosing a full CV and salary details quoting reference MCS/2004 to Christopher Bainton Executive Selection Division Price Waterhouse Management Consultants No. 1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL

**Price Waterhouse**

## Group Finance Director

Midlands

to £25,000 plus car

Long established; well known and respected; profitable and now looking towards sound growth in the future, this £20M turnover company is ideally placed to offer a most rewarding challenge and opportunity to an ambitious and capable qualified accountant. Based in the Midlands but operating on a National Scale, there will be the opportunity to share in the overall management in a demanding business environment. Preferred applicants will be aged between 35 and 45 and have both professional and commercial experience and a thorough knowledge of systems implementation. It would be particularly relevant if candidates were familiar with the construction or engineering industries. An incentive scheme related to profits enhances the basic salary and other benefits will more than repay the commitment, commercial flair and enthusiasm that it will be necessary to bring to this position.

Applications are welcomed from men and women.  
**OVERTON**  
MANAGEMENT SELECTION

If you feel you have the attributes required, please send full career and personal details to John L. Overton FCA, Managing Director, Overton Management Selection, 3 Berkeley Square, London W1X 5HG, or telephone 01-408 1401 for an application form quoting reference 11/115/FT.

## Financial Director

Nottingham

c. £25,000 + car  
+ profit share

Our client is renowned for the innovative design and manufacture of specialist engineering, maintenance and construction equipment. The Company has a turnover of about £3 million, and has a major export expansion programme based on recent and successful R & D.

The Company requires an experienced, commercially-minded, qualified accountant as part of the senior team. The appointee will play a key role in all financial, commercial, planning and administrative matters.

Applicants, aged over 30, must have gained practical management experience in a progressive career and ideally have a sound knowledge of computer systems, gained preferably in a manufacturing environment.

In the first instance please write in complete confidence quoting reference 6659 and submitting a curriculum vitae, including current salary, to:

Peter Childs  
Pannell Kerr Forster Associates  
New Garden House  
78 Hatton Garden  
London EC1N 8JA

**Pannell Kerr  
Forster  
Associates**  
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

## Financial Executives

currently seeking

£20,000-£50,000

Cartwright Hopkins is an established executive recruitment consultancy that provides its services in a professional, personal and confidential manner. We continually seek to extend and broaden our contacts with qualified accountants or treasury executives who have achieved a successful career to date and who may wish to develop their careers further by seeking a change of position now or alternatively by considering opportunities in the future.

Please write enclosing a full curriculum vitae to:  
Philip Cartwright F.C.M.A. or  
Nigel Hopkins F.C.A.,

97 Jermy Street,  
London SW1Y 6JE.  
Tel: 01-839 4572.

**Cartwright  
Hopkins**

FINANCIAL SELECTION AND SEARCH

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ext 4177

Paul Maravaglia  
ext 4678

Elizabeth Brown  
ext 3455

## Finance Directors

West Yorkshire to £35,000 + Bonus + Car

Our client is a highly acquisitive international manufacturing technology, systems and specialist engineering group with a new, young and entrepreneurial senior management team. Due to their continued commitment to growth and profitability the need has arisen to appoint two Finance Directors within their operating divisions.

**Divisional  
Finance Director**  
to £35,000 + Bonus + Car

Reporting to the Managing Director of a £20 million turnover multi-site high technology equipment manufacturing division, the incumbent's responsibilities will be for all aspects of the finance function. Key areas of involvement will be the integration and development of sophisticated financial management information systems. The successful applicant will also be expected to contribute significantly to strategic business planning and the overall commercial management of the business.

The successful candidates, preferably aged under 40, will be qualified accountants of graduate standing, who can demonstrate a progressive track record of achievement gained in a manufacturing environment. In addition they will be able to demonstrate commercial awareness and the necessary interpersonal skills in order to participate in the development of the Group. Prospects are excellent.

Interested applicants should contact Stephen J. Broadhurst quoting ref: L8385 at Michael Page Partnership, Leigh House, 28-32 St. Paul's Street, Leeds LS2 2PQ. (Tel. 0532 450122).



**Michael Page Partnership**

International Recruitment Consultants

London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide

A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC

## A key role in Financial Services Marketing

## Unit Trust Development Manager

£23-27,000 + benefits  
based York

Our client is a leading insurance organisation planning to take a share of the ever-increasing Unit Trust Market. In order to direct, control and develop this major growth area, they are looking for a financial marketing professional with drive and foresight to join a dynamic young team based at their head office in York.

Reporting to the Business Development Manager and part of a senior management team, you will be responsible for the marketing and presentation of a new product range to the market place. Our client sees this as a major initiative: substantial funding, promotional budget and further investment, demonstrate their commitment to making this an exciting and challenging arena.

You will probably be aged in your early 30's, of graduate calibre or holding equivalent professional qualifications, with substantial experience involving the marketing of Unit Trusts. Equally critical will be your ability to provide innovative solutions in this competitive market place, enabling you to progress and expand both the Department and, in consequence, your own role within the organisation.

Rewards are first-class with an excellent salary and benefits package. Full relocation expenses are available where appropriate.

Candidates, male or female, should apply, enclosing a full c.v. to the Company's adviser, David Boyes, Mercuri Urval Ltd, Ship Canal House, King Street, Manchester, M2 4WU quoting ref. 38/87

**Mercuri Urval**

## Property Controller

City

Package to £30,000 + Car

Our client is a major financial services group who now seek a Controller for the property division. They have a number of properties including two under construction and require an accountant with relevant experience of the industry. Applicants must be qualified, aged 27/32, with the drive and ability to make a major contribution in developing the accounting systems to control the division. Working directly with the Property Director, there will be considerable exposure to senior executives in the construction industry.

Applications to: R. J. Welsh.



**Reginald Welsh & Partners Ltd**

ACCOUNTANCY & EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

123, 4 Newgate Street, London, EC1A 7AA Tel: 01 600 8387

## FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP

Marketing and Corporate Finance Executives

We are an internationally known name with an established financial services operation.

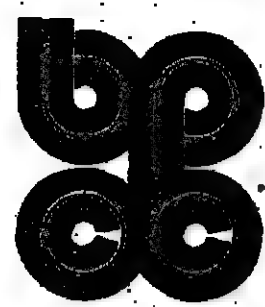
We are planning a major expansion of our activities in 1988 and wish to appoint an executive with experience of all aspects of corporate finance work. We also wish to appoint a marketing executive who will work closely with the existing team promoting the sales effort.

Terms of employment are attractive and reflect the importance we attach to the expansion of our Financial Services Group.

Write in complete confidence with full details to:

Box A0694, Financial Times,  
10 Cannon Street, London EC4A 3BY





## The British Printing & Communication Corporation plc Divisional Finance Director

London base

£30,000 + Bonus + Car

Our client is a major international group whose principal interests are in publishing, printing and related activities. They are currently seeking a Finance Director for one of their printing divisions. Working closely with the Divisional Managing Director, a strong commercial contribution will be required. Through the position is based in London, a certain amount of travel, nationally, will also be necessary. This will be a demanding role and it is considered unlikely that anybody under 35 years of age will

possess the presence, maturity and strength of personality considered essential for success. Experience gained in a multi-site environment would also be an advantage. Promotion prospects in this dynamic and fast-changing group are excellent.

Interested candidates who will be qualified accountants should write, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae and daytime telephone number, quoting ref. 457 to John Cookwell BSc, FCA, Executive Division at 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.



**Michael Page Partnership**

International Recruitment Consultants

London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide  
A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC



## UNITED TECHNOLOGIES Graduate Accountants

Aged 25-30  
Brussels or Milan

£28-40,000  
UK equivalent salary

United Technologies ranks among the top twenty industrial corporations in the Fortune 500. It is a broad based designer and manufacturer of high-technology products, including Pratt & Whitney aircraft engines, Sikorsky helicopters, Carrier air-conditioning systems and Otis elevators. European operations have expanded rapidly, with over sixty acquisitions and new ventures in the last five years and sales now in excess of US \$2 billion.

The European audit department is recognised as a training ground for the senior management of the future. With four promotions from the team of 11 in the last ten months, and further promotions planned, the company can demonstrate an excellent track record of internal advancement. This, and an expansion of the department, lead them to seek other high-calibre individuals.

Assignments are conducted throughout Europe, and provide members of the team with considerable insight into the workings of a major international corporation. Essential to success in these assignments is the ability to analyse the operations of a business and

present recommendations for improvement to senior management.

These positions represent an excellent opportunity for those seeking a first move out of the accounting profession, or alternatively, a second move within industry, to obtain considerable commercial exposure coupled with excellent career prospects in a blue-chip multinational.

Candidates should be graduate accountants, or MBA's, with at least three years' auditing or relevant financial experience. A second European language would be seen as a distinct advantage. The positions are located in Brussels or Milan, with return from assignments to homebase at weekends.

Interested applicants are invited to contact Stephen Raby on Brussels (010/322) 648.13.84 at Michael Page International, Avenue Louise 350, Box 3, 1050 Brussels. Alternatively, contact Tony Seager on London

(01) 831.0431 at Michael Page International, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Please enclose a comprehensive curriculum vitae with your application, quoting Ref. B354/FT.



**Michael Page International**

Recruitment Consultants  
London Amsterdam Brussels New York Park Ridge  
A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC



## CORPORATE FINANCE Newly/Recently Qualified Accountant

City £19,000-20,000 + Mortgage

Working within the Mergers and Acquisitions department of this highly successful City subsidiary of a leading international bank, you will take on a wide variety of responsibilities.

Duties will include assisting companies in identifying acquisitions, analysing and assessing financial and commercial issues, advising clients on deals and liaising with all other departments within corporate finance.

Candidates must be qualified accountants, but need not have previous exposure to the financial services sector. Outstanding promotion prospects include the opportunity to specialise within mergers and acquisitions, marketing or client support. Contact VIVIANE SHALL - Ref: 4340

ALDERWICK PEACHELL and PARTNERS  
125 High Holborn London WC1 (Financial Recruitment Consultants) Tel: 01-404 3155

**Alderwick  
Peachell  
PARTNERS LTD**

## ORACLE UK

## MANAGER OF CORPORATE ACCOUNTING

£24K + car + bens. + bonus

Since its formation in 1984 ORACLE UK has continued to sustain an impressive growth record both in terms of revenue and profit and is currently recognised as the leading international supplier of relational database software.

As part of a major U.S. multinational with operations in over 30 countries the company is now poised to undergo further expansion and consequently seeks to strengthen its U.K. management structure with the appointment of a senior accountant in their offices in S.W. London.



Prospects within this international company are unrivalled and it is stressed that success in this role will certainly lead to rapid career advancement.

Interested applicants should telephone Charles Austin on 01-488 4114 or write to him, quoting reference A074, at Mervyn Hughes International Ltd, Management Recruitment Consultants, 63 Mansell Street, London E1 8AN.

Based S W London

Reporting to the Financial Controller the position will require a thorough knowledge and understanding of complex reporting systems as well as an aptitude for working within a professional but commercial environment.

As a qualified accountant, aged 24-28, you should have already demonstrated a successful track record to date and be capable of working within this demanding yet challenging role.

## Assistant Manager

Taxation Department

£25K + car + benefits

**LLOYD'S  
of LONDON**

In supporting and regulating the Lloyd's Market, the Corporation of Lloyd's is the perfect complement to an organisation that is unique, both in its flexibility and in the range of its services.

As Assistant Manager in our Taxation Department, you will become an important member of Lloyd's professional tax group, and consequently you must be able to communicate at senior levels.

You will be part of a team, responsible for ensuring that the Corporation and its subsidiary companies continue to comply with all tax obligations and operate in a tax efficient manner. You will also co-ordinate VAT arrangements for both the Corporation and the Lloyd's Market.

Educated to degree level, you should be a Chartered Accountant and probably ATII; alternatively you may be considered if you possess customs and excise experience. Some knowledge of Lloyd's would be an additional advantage but is not essential.

In return, we can offer you an excellent salary, plus a company car and an attractive range of benefits which include a mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension and private and permanent health insurance, subsidised lunches and season ticket loan.

Please write with full CV (quoting FD 514), to Christopher Hooper, Personnel Department, Lloyd's, London House, 6 London Street, London EC3R 7AB.

## FINANCE DIRECTOR

International Software Company  
£40,000 package + car

North London

Having established itself as one of the world's leading software companies, our client is now preparing for further rapid growth. The UK subsidiary of this group is on target almost to double its revenue this year.

It now needs a Finance Director to take an active role in the general management of the UK business and provide the financial input to future planning and strategy issues.

Candidates should be qualified accountants with sound financial management experience gained in a fast-moving and

competitive environment. They should have a strong commercial sense and an outward-looking approach, but also should be able to demonstrate a high level of professionalism.

The remuneration package, which includes a performance-related element, will be about £40,000 plus performance related bonus with an executive car.

Please write in confidence, quoting reference C7587/L with CV and full career details to Jane Woodward.



**Peat Marwick McLintock**

Executive Selection and Search  
9 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR

## HEAD OF FINANCIAL CONTROL

City c. £37k + car/package

Our client is a well-established, prestigious financial institution employing about 1,700 staff, providing high class banking and financial services.

As Head of Financial Control, reporting direct to the Managing Director, the appointed candidate will be fully accountable for directing the further strategic development of the financial function with a staff of 20.

Key tasks include managing and developing the day-to-day computerised finance and accounting procedures, providing all necessary financial information for management and external statutory bodies, ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Financial Services Act, asset and liability management, as well as playing a major role in planning the strategic development of the business.

Candidates, ideally aged 38-43, must be chartered accountants, demonstrating considerable line management experience and expertise at a senior level within a major commercial organisation, preferably within a banking or financial services environment.

Strong proactive, negotiating and inter-personal skills are required, as is the personal stature necessary to fulfil the demands of this important appointment.

Please apply with full career details to:-  
Stephen Mawditt,  
Managing Director,  
Senior Management International.

**SEARCH & SELECTION DIVISION InterSec SM**

Human Resource Management Consultants  
Landseer House 19 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0ES



## CARDIFF BAY Development Corporation

Make Cardiff the world's  
brightest maritime city

Director of Finance and Administration

A Major Opportunity in Urban Regeneration

negotiable to £28,000

The newly created Cardiff Bay Development Corporation has one objective: to regenerate the 2,700 acres of Cardiff Bay in order that Wales' capital city is placed firmly on the international map.

This key appointment is vital to the success of the Corporation and a high calibre professional is sought who will formulate and implement plans and strategies, proactively helping to achieve the stated objectives.

Task one is to establish effective financial controls, performance criteria and a management information system; responsible for a three-figure investment budget, you will advise the Board on all financial matters and will promote "value for money" in all the Authority's dealings. Your wide ranging brief also carries responsibility for working alongside the Commercial Director to attract significant private sector investment. Additional involvement with personnel

and administration functions is implicit. An astute and highly qualified accountant, you will currently occupy a senior financial management position; you must display considerable financial acumen, commensurate with several years in an environment of similar dimensions. Familiarity with public sector finance is essential and may well be complemented by private sector experience.

The benefits package is currently being negotiated and it is anticipated that the appointment will be made on the basis of a renewable 5-year fixed term contract.

To apply, please telephone for an application form or send your cv quoting ref: 1725/PA/FT to Peter Bedford at the address below.



**PA Personnel Services**

Executive Search - Selection - Psychology - Remuneration & Personnel Consultancy

St Brandon's House, 28 Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5QT.  
Tel: 0272 298204

## Company Secretary

Financial services sector

Leeds

c £20,000

Our client, a rapidly expanding specialist company within the financial services sector, owes its success to the creative use of information, advanced DP capability and the highest standards of client service.

Reporting to the Chief Executive and as part of the senior management team, you will be responsible for the provision of a complete company secretarial and administrative service. Key tasks include statutory returns, insurance, property and legal issues, servicing meetings and generally contributing to the overall management of the business.

Probably aged 35-45 years and ICSA qualified, you must have at least five years' company secretarial experience preferably gained in a professional or financial services environment. Ability and ambition to make a significant personal contribution to the company's overall business development are important.

The remuneration package is flexible and for discussion, and includes a range of benefits tailored to suit individual preferences. Assistance with relocation where appropriate.

Please write - in confidence - with full details. Peter Roberts, ref. B.63216.

**MSL International (UK) Ltd, Oak House, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1EL.**

Offices in Europe, the Americas, Australasia and Asia Pacific.



**MSL International**



## Financial systems

Oxford, £23,500 neg. + car



Oxford University Press, a department of Oxford University, is one of the largest independent publishers in the UK. Last year, worldwide turnover exceeded £96 million with a major portion of this being contributed by the UK Publishing Divisions through the sale of academic, educational and English language teaching books and materials. UK Publishing has produced excellent results in recent years and is seeking to maintain its significant market share in a number of areas is continually looking to improve the efficiency of its operation. A financial project manager is therefore required to take a lead role in the implementation of new computerised management information systems in this dynamic and challenging environment.

Reporting to the Director of Financial Services, you will be responsible for ensuring that systems meet the needs of the finance function. Working closely with the Publishing Divisions and computer services, you will assist in introducing new facilities onto the current system to pave the way for the future and will be a key member of the project team to define, select and implement the next generation of systems.

Career opportunities are excellent for moving to a senior divisional role.

Probably in your late 20's - early 30's and a qualified accountant, you will have gained good experience of management accounting, together with a broad exposure to computerised systems. Of equal importance are excellent communications skills and the ability to relate to highly articulate people.

Resumes, including a daytime telephone number, to Janice Walden, Ref. JW 797.

Coopers & Lybrand  
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Coopers & Lybrand  
Executive Selection Limited  
Shelley House 3 Noble Street  
London EC2V 7DQ  
01-606 1975

## SPECIALIST INVESTMENT GROUP

ACA's 24-27

SW1

Our client is one of the most imaginative and aggressive investment companies we have seen. A highly profitable Plc with a current market capitalisation of £80 million the company is seeking to establish itself as a broad based holding company with a number of diverse operating subsidiaries.

An opportunity has arisen within their small head office team to become involved in producing corporate and investment reports. The role is varied and you will be expected to work under pressure to tight deadlines. It is

Exceptional Package (negotiable)

essential that you have the ability to adopt a "hands on" approach as well as to contribute strategic input at the highest level. Experience of Lotus 1-2-3 or similar financial modelling packages would be an asset.

Whilst our client can't offer you a structured career path, the prospects for promotion into a "sharp-end" strategic role are excellent.

For more information call Fiona McGahan ACA on 01 930 7850, or write giving brief details to the address below.

ROBERT • WALTERS • ASSOCIATES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
66-68 Haymarket London SW1Y 4RF Telephone: 01-930 7850

NEWLY QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT  
Needed for Lloyd's Underwriting Agency to act as deputy for Accountant. Lloyd's Syndicate experience is essential and computer experience advantageous. Excellent long-term prospects. Salary £21,000 plus P.V.O. contributory Pension Scheme, Perm. Health Ins. and P.P.P. cover after two years.  
Apply to:  
D. F. R. Steel,  
Dale House, 67/69 Palmer Street,  
London SE1 4TU

## Financial Accountant

City

to £30,000 + exceptional banking bens.

Our client, a substantial and diverse banking group with an enviable reputation, is seeking to recruit a Financial Accountant at their UK Head Office, in the City.

Reporting to the Financial Controller, you will manage a team of six in providing financial information relating to the Corporate Banking, Treasury, Capital Markets, Corporate Finance and other related areas.

This is an excellent career opportunity for a young qualified accountant with at least two years' post qualifying experience.

Aged 28-33, you will have either reached manager level within the profession, or hold a financial accounting position in the banking sector.

There is an exceptional remuneration package and prospects for promotion are excellent.

Interested candidates should write, enclosing a comprehensive C.V. and daytime telephone number quoting ref: 458 to Philip Rice MA, ACMA, Executive Division, Michael Page Partnership, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.



Michael Page Partnership

International Recruitment Consultants

London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide  
A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC

## FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

SW London package to £35,000 + car

Our client is a long established £12m turnover manufacturer of very high quality consumer durables. Since its acquisition by a major UK group - which has sustained a quite exceptional growth and earnings per share record throughout the eighties - its own long standing development potential is now receiving the support and encouragement it needs.

A financial director is required to free the managing director to give much more of his time to developing the company's marketing initiatives. The initial thrust of this newly defined role will be to improve the company's costing methodologies, to make it more nimble in its market place. This will involve introducing more appropriate computer systems and

developing very close, commercially effective relationships with sales and marketing colleagues.

Candidates will desirably be professionally qualified graduates, but a progressive career in industrial environments where product costing experience has developed real commercial awareness is the essential profile sought. The appointment offers both the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the conduct and future direction of a business and career development opportunities within a very successful group. Please send full career details, in confidence, quoting reference S7536/L to Mike Blankenhagen.



Peat Marwick McLintock

Executive Selection and Search  
9 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR

## Accountancy Personnel

Placing Accountants First

### FINANCE DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

£25,000 + Car + Share Options

SPACE-TIME SYSTEMS LTD.

Space-Time is the UK market-leader in the provision of computer technology and services to the entertainment world, with an impressive list of clients including many of the country's leading performing arts organisations and major local authorities.

As well as developing and marketing turn-key mini computer ticketing and accounting systems, Space-Time operates 'FIRST CALL', a 24 hour, 7 day a week credit card booking service for London theatres, concert halls and cinemas. Launched two years ago, FIRST CALL is already one of London's biggest ticket retailers.

With ambitious plans for further growth, Space-Time has reached an important stage in its development and now wishes to appoint a Finance Director Designate to strengthen its financial expertise. The successful appointee will also be required to act as Secretary to the Board.

Taking overall control of the existing accounting team and computerised financial systems, the person appointed will become a key member of a talented management team committed to the development of financial strategies and corporate planning. This is a challenging opportunity for an experienced, qualified accountant, preferably (but not essentially) in the 25-35 age range, who can demonstrate an ability to innovate and contribute both intellectually and commercially.

Please contact our consultants on 01-379 6716 as soon as possible.

Accountancy Personnel,  
110 Strand,  
London WC2R 0AA  
Tel: 01-379 6716

## Head of Financial and Revenue Accounting

Policy making role in a  
£ Multi-Million Business

Reading to £22k

Yellow Pages is Britain's most successful classified directory. Our imaginative leadership and dynamic style is geared towards increasing this success into the 90's and beyond.

To help achieve this objective we are looking for a high-calibre professional to head up our Financial and Revenue Accounting team.

You will be responsible for developing and implementing day-to-day policies which will ensure the highest levels of efficiency and accuracy and for recommending long-term policy changes. This will involve producing and maintaining accounting records to

auditable standards, controlling the computerised revenue accounting system and developing the intrabusiness, Cashiers, Purchase Ledger and Fixed Asset functions.

Candidates must be qualified accountants with an impressive track record in a senior role, encompassing Financial and Treasury accounting and computerised systems. Good management and communications skills and the ability to work efficiently under pressure are essential.

Starting salary is up to £22,000, depending on experience, together with those benefits expected of a successful organisation.

Please write, with full CV, to:  
Sue Brooking, Yellow Pages Personnel,  
Queens Walk, Oxford Road, Reading,  
Berk RG1 7PL



British  
TELECOM

## CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

EXCELLENT PROSPECTS WITH AN  
INNOVATIVE HI-TECH GROUP

BERKSHIRE £25,000 + CAR + BONUS  
A graduate Chartered Accountant, aged 28-33 and with high potential, is sought by a successful, medium sized public group.

Reporting to the Group Finance Director, the role will include all interpretive group financial and management reporting, plus treasury management, strategic planning, systems enhancements and company secretarial administration.

The Group, which employs around 200 people, is enjoying sustained organic growth; selective acquisitions and high investment are designed to ensure continued profitable expansion.

Applicants should have trained with a major practice, have post qualification experience in a large industrial/commercial company and be able to offer stature, maturity and good communication skills.

To further your interest in this exceptional opportunity, please write briefly enclosing a comprehensive CV or telephone for a personal history form to J. Constable, quoting ref: 4975.



## A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

TO JOIN A GROWING MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP IN  
JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA AS  
DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND PLANNING

The ideal candidate will possess an M.B.A. and a C.P.A. or Chartered Accountant as well as ten (10) years of progressive financial experience. He will, most likely, presently be the Chief Corporate Financial Officer for a major multi-plant manufacturer.

The right person will have experience in all facets of Finance and Accounting with special emphasis on establishing financial systems and controls in the changeover from manual to automated systems, as well as all forms of financial analysis and reporting.

In addition, the person who takes on this challenging position will be ultimately familiar with International finance and bank regulations, internal auditing, cost accounting, capital financing and the treasury function.

Most importantly, we are looking for someone who is experienced in and dedicated to cost control.

Fluency in Arabic and English is required.

We offer an outstanding compensation package including annual incentive package, compound living, medical coverage, car, etc.

PLEASE SEND RESUME TO:

Box A0648, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY.

## Financial Executive - Acquisitions

Main Board prospects

£25,000 + bonus

Expansion by sensible, logical acquisitions as well as by organic growth is an integral part of the company's corporate strategy. An autonomous subsidiary of a large British group, it has ample backing and facilities to carry this out.

Working closely with the Chief Executive the person appointed will be responsible for investigations, appraisals, recommendations and negotiations with potential acquisitions. Success in this job could lead to a Board appointment as Financial Director when the present incumbent retires.

Candidates should be Chartered Accountants in their early thirties within

manufacturing industries. Investigation and acquisition experience is essential and this must have been on the international scene with emphasis on North America and Europe.

Initial salary will be around £25,000, there is a performance related bonus and a fully-expensed car is provided. The post is based in a most pleasant location to the North of the Home Counties; any necessary house move expenses will be reimbursed.

Please send career details - in confidence - to A. D. Perival.

Ravenscroft & Partners

Search and Selection  
20 Albert Square, Manchester M2 5PE

## Manager - Accounting

Saudi Arabia  
2 year tax-free contract  
worth around £40,000

Reporting directly to the Finance Director, you will be responsible for the administration and management of the General Accounting, Accounts Payable, Cost Accounting and Payroll functions. Appropriately qualified, you must have considerable accounting experience and a flexible attitude to work. The position is offered on batchelor status with excellent terms and conditions.

Please write with full career details quoting reference 5Y to: Webb Whitley Associates Ltd., International Recruitment Consultants, 8 Quay Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3UY. Tel: (0483) 575759.

Lockheed



## INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONAL REVIEW

### London Based

### Age 22-28

Our client is one of the world's major diversified consumer product Groups with a worldwide turnover of £15.5 Billion and substantial manufacturing and marketing operations in the UK and Continental Europe. As a result of internal promotions into line management they now seek to recruit young business orientated individuals.

#### They offer:

- Experience and training in operational areas such as production marketing & computer-based systems.
- High visibility with general management throughout Europe.
- A policy of promoting from the department into line management.
- A competitive remuneration and benefits package, including relocation assistance if required.

#### They require:

- A recognised accountancy or business qualification.
- First class oral and written communication skills.
- An innovative and analytical approach to problem solving.
- Knowledge of a European foreign language.
- A desire to travel as up to 50% of your time will be spent overseas.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work in a team.

Due to internally generated growth these positions represent a first class opportunity for candidates from either a professional or commercial background. Your commitment and potential together with their training and management development programmes will lead to a high profile career within the group.



Interested applicants should contact Simon Hewitt on 01-498 4114 or write enclosing a comprehensive C.V. quoting reference A075 to Mervyn Hughes International Ltd., Management Recruitment Consultants, 63 Mansell Street, London E1 8AN.

M E R V Y N H U G H E S I N T E R N A T I O N A L L T D

## Fast track and thirty

### Your route to the top

### Accounting background



This is the largest manufacturer of fast-moving consumer goods in the world, marketing products in a wide variety of sectors and countries. Whilst a large organisation it is managed on the basis of many separate operating companies, each with its own profit responsible board of directors and management team.

It creates tomorrow's leaders by using the group's tremendous diversity to provide early responsibility (often internationally) in ever more stretching and demanding appointments. These lead to operating company board level appointments for high fliers by their mid 30's.

It is seeking a small number of very fast track business executives to join its cadre of high potential young managers. Initial appointments will be financially orientated positions carrying substantial managerial responsibility.

You will be an outstanding commercial manager and an accountant with a good degree. You will have received comprehensive training and development in a professionally managed organisation and have had significant management accounting experience. Most important will be a record of real achievement and the personal qualities necessary to succeed at senior levels in a highly challenging environment.

The terms and conditions of these appointments are excellent and include a starting salary up to £30,000 plus a company car and other usual large company benefits.

The initial appointments are in a variety of locations, some in and around London, and appropriate relocation arrangements will be available where necessary.

If you believe that you can demonstrate the potential to meet this challenge and ultimately rise to the top levels of a major international group then please submit a full CV to Gregory T M Hinde, Ref. GHF749.

Coopers & Lybrand  
Executive Selection

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Executive Selection Limited  
Shelley House 3 Noble Street  
London EC2V 7DD  
01-606 1975

## Financial Controller

Watford c.£24k + car

An exciting challenge has arisen for the right individual to join and develop with a strong, successful management team.

Our client is a rapidly expanding provider of a comprehensive range of computer services to a variety of business sectors. Since its formation in 1977 the company turnover and the number of people employed have grown according to plan. The Directors' projections for the medium term confirm continued impressive growth. They wish to enhance management of senior level by the introduction of an experienced Financial Controller. The present team is 48 strong and increasing.

#### If you:

- are a self-motivated communicator
- are a Chartered Accountant with at least 2-3 years' post qualification experience in financial control
- are familiar with computerised management information and spreadsheet software
- can design and implement financial and management control systems
- will take full responsibility for the direction and motivation of a small staff
- are a robust team player
- can hold your own with committed professionals from other disciplines
- want to be involved in the development of a successful business

Then you could be the right person for this career opportunity.

The company has recently expanded its prestigious, modern accommodation in the heart of the commercial area of Watford.

The package offered, including a company car, is consistent with a senior management post reporting to the Managing Director. If you are interested, please send your CV to be sent in the first instance to Mandy Davies.

**ROBSON RHODES**

Chartered Accountants

Management Consultancy Division

186, City Road, London, EC1V 2NU.

## High Flying Accountants

Surrey

c. £24,000

A major international group offers ambitious young accountants the opportunity to join a dynamic team based in prestige offices in Surrey. The job provides:

- challenging assignments in operational and computer auditing in the UK, Europe, Africa and USA.
- a substantial training and development programme in a department that uses the most modern computer techniques available.

Interested candidates who are in the age range 28-35 must be:

- Qualified accountants with good audit experience gained in a practising office or internal audit department.
- Conversant in a European language, preferably Italian, Norwegian, German or Dutch.
- Self-motivated, team orientated and sociable.

The company offers above average rewards. In addition to a salary negotiable around £24,000, you will be flown home every weekend from the North European locations and every second weekend from the Southern European locations. Ongoing career prospects are excellent.

Write in confidence to John Gregory, John Corrin & Partners, 855, Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes MK9 2ND, demonstrating clearly how you meet our client's requirements quoting SL54/ET. Both men and women may apply.

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London, Milton Keynes, Northwich

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## Shandwick GROUP FINANCIAL CONTROLLER Central London

ACA's 30+ circa £35,000 + car

Shandwick plc, the world's largest independent public relations consultancy, is seeking to recruit a Group Financial Controller. Reporting to the Finance Director, the role will include responsibility for the preparation of consolidated group financial and management accounts, preparation of group budgets plus actual/budget analysis and remedial action, group taxation, development of computerised systems, computer modelling and liaison with auditors and advisors.

Candidates (male or female) should already be at Financial Controller level, preferably in a medium/large service industry sector company or group, although candidates from manufacturing industry will be considered. Candidates should have experience of the above areas of expertise, and also have experience of an international environment.

If you wish to be considered, please send your CV to George Ormrod BA (Oxon) or Stephen Hackett BA (Oxon) at our London address, quoting reference no. 8078.

FINANCIAL & MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
**DOUGLAS LLAMBIAS**  
DOUGLAS LLAMBIAS ASSOCIATES LIMITED, 410 STRANG LONDON WC2R 0NS  
TELEPHONE 01-596 9501

## ALTON TOWERS FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

STAFFORDSHIRE c.£30,000 + car

Alton Towers Ltd operate the largest leisure complex and theme park in the UK and are developing a large family entertainment complex at Battersea.

Reporting to the Group Financial Director, the Financial Controller will be responsible for the day to day control of the group finances including monthly management accounts, cash forecasting and capital expenditure budgets. The position also involves monitoring performance reports from operating divisions, liaison with the company's bankers and the continual development of financial control systems.

Applications are invited from qualified accountants aged 32-40 with the personality to contribute to the commercial development of the company. Ideally candidates will have some knowledge of computerised modelling techniques.

Please send a comprehensive career résumé including salary history and daytime telephone number, quoting ref: 2848 to Terry Dennis, Executive Selection Division.

**Touche Ross**  
The Business Partners

P.O. Box 500, Abbey House, 74 Mosley Street, Manchester M60 2AT.  
Telephone: 061-228 3456.

## Financial Controller

£20,000+

Watford

A young, dynamic organisation involved in the design, manufacturing and marketing of fashion accessories to prestigious high street retailers with an expected 1987 turnover of £2 million is experiencing explosive growth. They have decided to improve management accounting and reporting which may require installation of a computerised accounting system. A Financial Controller is required to develop systems, to oversee computer implementation and to control the firm's financial affairs.

He/She should be a young qualified Accountant with good computer experience, and will play a pivotal role in the company, reporting directly to the two Principals. As this is a small but rapidly expanding company, flexibility and willingness to undertake a wide variety of duties, and experience of, or an interest in, working for a manufacturing company would be distinct advantages. A sound, commercial approach is considered important.

This is an exciting opportunity to develop with a company which is looking to a stock exchange listing. There is scope for a dedicated financial controller to develop his/her career in-line with these plans.

Applications, giving full personal and career details, should be submitted, quoting reference SHA.1024 to Roger Hughes at Stoy Hayward Associates, Management Consultants, Executive Recruitment Division, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.



**Stoy Hayward Associates**

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

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## VENTURE CAPITAL CORPORATE FINANCE EXECUTIVE

New Issuing House/Sponsor c.£40,000

One of the UK's leading venture capital houses will shortly be setting up an Issuing House operation.

A Corporate Finance Executive is sought to complete the internal management team which will spearhead the launch and growth of this new venture.

A secondary role will be involvement in the realizations of investments in funds managed by the venture capital parent, either through flotation or sale to third parties.

This interesting and varied position ideally calls for a qualified accountant or corporate lawyer with experience of new issues in merchant banking, stockbroking or other investment institution. In addition to the opportunity to play a significant role in this new operation, the successful candidate will have every scope to develop a career within the broader venture capital business, including advising companies on acquisition or realization strategy.

Salary negotiable at around £40,000 plus substantial benefits. Success in this new venture will lead to promotion in an expanding organization.

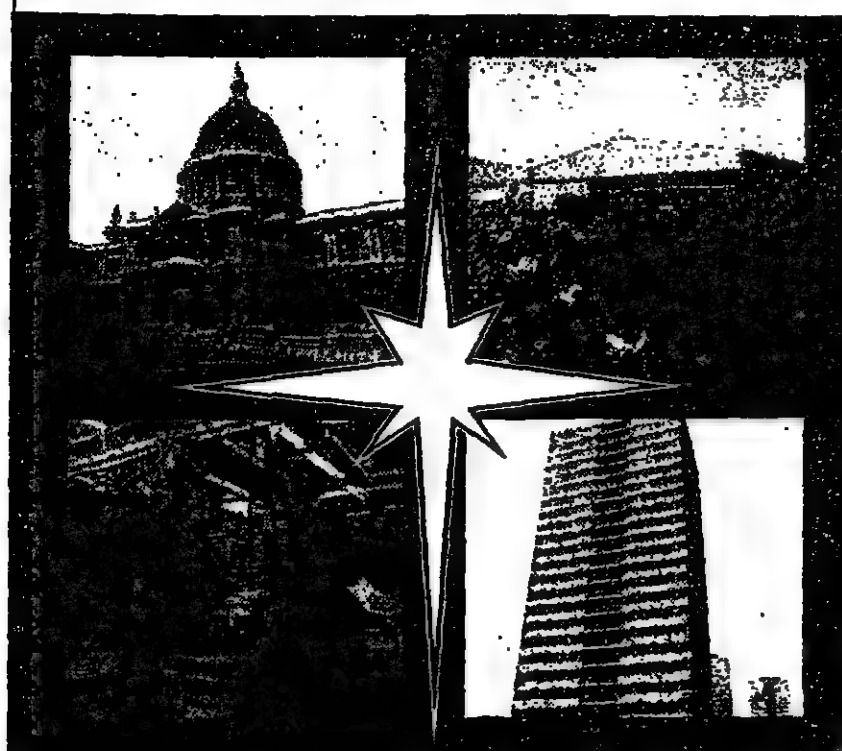
For an informal discussion, telephone Peter Wallum on 09328 63213 or 67257 or write with full career details to him at Strategic People Recruitment, The Range, Dockers Eddy Lane, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 9NL.

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Management Consultancy Division  
P.O. Box 198, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7PL

## Financial Controller- Company Secretary

£ Negotiable  
West Sussex

Our client is a very significant member of a reputable group which is in the top 10 in world manufacturing and is an international name in hydraulic technology.

Its manufacturing base and headquarters in West Sussex produces hydraulic and electronic products for the home and overseas markets. It is also the financial accounting centre for production and for UK sales.

Reporting to the Managing Director you will form part of a team dedicated to developing and expanding the business in the most cost-effective and profitable way. More specifically

your role is to maintain and develop financial systems, exercise appropriate financial control, produce short and long term business plans, and advise on financial policy and procedures. Additionally you will be responsible for the computerised management control systems.

We are seeking a qualified accountant with at least 10 years post qualifying experience in a manufacturing environment which incorporates machine shop batch production and in which computerised accounting and manufacturing systems are utilised. The successful candidate is likely to be already holding a senior financial

position in an engineering environment.

The rewards package includes a negotiable salary, a fully expensed car, BUPA, and pension arrangements.

The position offers an ideal opportunity to enter an organisation which is structured to expand and which is receptive to change.

Please write enclosing a full CV, indicating your current salary and quoting ref MCS/5091, to: Barrie Whitaker, Executive Selection, Price Waterhouse Management Consultants, No. 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL.

**Price Waterhouse**

## FINANCE DIRECTOR

Property,  
London

Neg £30,000 + Car

My client is a property company in Central London with a substantial investment programme to undertake over the next three years. The Managing Director is looking for a Finance Manager to work with him in the management of this programme.

The ideal person, apart from being a qualified accountant with some sound professional or commercial experience, will be capable of combining tight financial controls with an interest in developing successful business strategies.

Previous experience in finance or property would be useful but not essential. Age range 28-40. It is expected that the person would become a director in due course and the salary package is unlikely to be an obstacle.

For an immediate discussion telephone in complete confidence Ian Wittet MA CA, on 01 353 1244, or write to, ASA International Ltd, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB.

**ASA International**

## International Appointments

### EXPERT IN BANANA TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE

Major banana importers, established since the forties in a leading Arab country, planning to establish a procurement division in Central or South America, would employ for a long term an expert in banana technology and trade, capable of organizing and running quality control services, and of providing updated technical advice to growers and packers, and of supervising shipments and connected administrative functions.

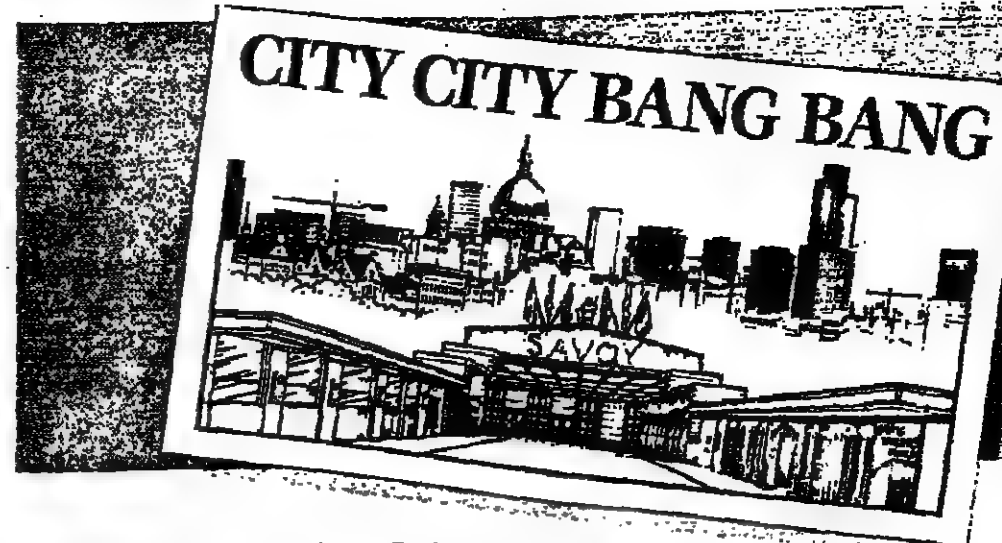
The position will be attractively remunerated according to terms to be agreed between the parties.

Essential minimum ten years recent experience in similar position with a well known banana multinational company. Fluency in English is essential.

Candidates must be prepared to live in any major banana growing country, but position would be stable even though frequent travel may be required.

Please apply in confidence, as soon as possible, with full CV. (All applications to be in English).

LM: White Consultancy, 31 Danbury Vale, Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex: CM3 4LA, England.



## ONE YEAR ON.....

Have you reserved a place at our Careers Seminar to be held over breakfast at THE SAVOY HOTEL on Thursday, 22 October between 8.00 am - 10.00 am?

If you have, you will hear John Plender, eminent journalist and presenter of The Channel 4 Business Programme, give his views on the impact of the Big Bang on Accountants in the City and how their future will develop.

If you have not, you will miss the opportunity to meet with representatives from a

number of prestigious financial institutions including 3i, The Stock Exchange, Phillips & Drew Corporate Finance, S G Warburg Group, Lloyds Bank, Enskilda Securities, Touche Remnant, National Provident Institution.

A number of places remain for young, recently qualified accountants. Do not delay: telephone Pippa Curtis or Carol Saunders on 01-836 9501 or alternatively telephone Linkline 0800 289501 to reserve a place.



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TELEPHONE: 01-836 9501

## Group Financial Controller

Cheshire  
circa £28,000 + car

This well established and commercially successful company, with interests in warehousing and distribution, agricultural supply and fuels, has a turnover approaching £30m. Three autonomous subsidiaries have recently been formed embracing these core activities and an experienced executive is now being sought to control the financial management of the group.

Through a close and direct working relationship with the Chairman, the successful applicant will make a major contribution to the strategic development of the businesses whilst retaining a hands-on approach to the accounting and secretarial responsibilities of the group.

Chartered Accountants, aged 32-45, should have at least five years senior management experience, a working knowledge of computer-based management information systems and a track record of sound financial and commercial decision-making.

In addition to the negotiable salary, an excellent benefits package and relocation facilities will be available.

Candidates should send a full C.V., detailing current salary and quoting MCS/505, to Peter Jones, at: Price Waterhouse, Management Consultants, Executive Selection Division, York House, York Street, Manchester M2 4WS.

**Price Waterhouse**

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## Corporate Planning Manager

Lincolnshire c£25,000 Plus Car

Suter p.l.c. has in recent times been at the forefront of the rapid growth of broadly based industrial companies. With interests principally in distribution and engineering, the company's remarkable success has been achieved through a combination of organic growth and a carefully conceived acquisitions strategy. The continuing success of this strategy has created a need for a Manager to join the Director of Corporate Planning to assist in the development of a strategic planning function. Apart from the formal Corporate Planning process, he/she will be involved in the analysis and identification of further opportunities for corporate growth.

Likely candidates will have a high level of academic and professional qualification and are likely to have experience of acquisitions and corporate planning. In addition, the ideal candidate will have spent a minimum of two years within industry, and be able to demonstrate considerable potential for development.

Candidates should contact, in confidence, Mark Spickett or Brian Ingram on 01-629 3555 or write to 70-71 New Bond Street, London, W1Y 9DE.

**— Brian Ingram Associates —**  
70/71 New Bond Street, London W1 9DE

## COMPANY ACCOUNTANT LONDON BASED EXCELLENT SALARY PACKAGE

Our client, a subsidiary of a major British Bank, requires a qualified accountant with two years experience for its head office in London.

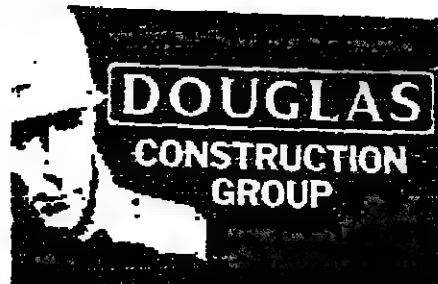
Responsibilities include supervision of a growing accounts department, control of a mini-computer based accounting system, preparation of monthly management accounts, annual accounts and group returns.

The successful candidate must be able to contribute to the efficient management and further development of the accounting function and to communicate and liaise effectively with other departments at all levels.

Interested individuals should send their CV's and a day time telephone number in confidence to M. Ayler:

EMA Management Personnel Limited  
46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN  
01 242 7773

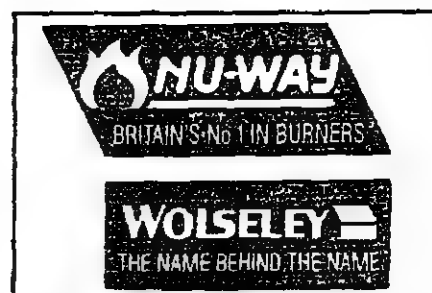




## SECTION II - COMPANIES AND MARKETS

# FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday October 15 1987



## Chemical New York hit by \$66m quarterly loss

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY IN NEW YORK

CHEMICAL NEW YORK, the fourth largest US banking group which includes Chemical Bank and Texas Commerce Bancshares, lost \$66.4m or \$1.12 a share after tax in the third-quarter.

The loss, which compared with a net profit of \$99.1m or \$1.87 a share a year earlier, resulted mainly from a charge of \$135m associated with the restructuring and staff cuts at Chemical Bank announced in September.

The holding company's loss also included a \$13.5m third-quarter net deficit from Texas Commerce, the leading bank in Houston, which Chemical acquired in May this year.

The troubled Texas bank was not included in the 10 per cent staff cutbacks and consolidation of opera-

tions announced by Chemical, because it was already operating "under a strict austerity programme," the parent company said.

Apart from special charges, Chemical's results were adversely affected by higher non-interest expenses - which were up 18 per cent on an underlying basis - and gains from the sale of investment securities which were \$47.1m lower than in the previous year.

Against this the bank had 23 per cent better profits from its foreign exchange operations, 28 per cent higher fee income from its "core" trust and banking services and provisions for loan losses which were \$17m smaller than in the year-earlier period.

For the first nine months of 1987, Chemical lost a total of \$1,083.8m or

\$20.88 a share, after taking a \$1.1bn charge for Third World loan losses in the second-quarter.

The total loss at the Texas Commerce subsidiary since the May 1 merger date has been \$83.1m, including a provision of \$80m for LDC loans.

Bank of New York, the medium-sized Wall Street bank which is attempting to take over Irving Bank, one of its closest rivals, earned \$45.2m or \$1.22 a share in the third-quarter, 18 per cent up on the \$37.9m or \$1.12 reported last year.

The gain was due to growth of around 30 per cent in both fee income and loans outstanding. The bank also reaffirmed its commitment to pursue the takeover, which is being contested by Irving.

## Colgate to take \$150m charge

By James Buchanan in New York

COLGATE-PALMOLIVE, the US household products group which is restructuring its businesses, yesterday said it would take a \$150m charge to its earnings in the quarter just ended to account for cutbacks in its corporate staff and the closure of manufacturing plants.

Colgate said the charge, amounting to \$211m before tax and \$2.26 a share, would wipe out earnings for the third-quarter ended September. In the 1986 September quarter, the group reported \$48.05m or 68 cents a share in net income.

Burt Colgate, which has impressed Wall Street with the vigour of its restructuring since Mr Reuben Mark took over as chief executive in 1984, said it would partly offset the loss with a gain from the \$200m sale of a handbag-making subsidiary. The gain will be booked in the fourth-quarter.

"Over the past three years, we have been working to reduce costs and accelerate new products programmes," Mr Mark said yesterday. "Maintaining this momentum is vital."

Mr Mark said Colgate would cut 800 jobs as part of a reorganisation of its corporate headquarters, its US operations and the staff at Kendall, the health care subsidiary which has been hurt by lower hospital spending.

The purpose is to support a "decentralised and more entrepreneurial management style".

In manufacturing, Colgate will redesign or relocate some 30 plants worldwide and six will be closed. The expense of closure and relocation will be partly offset by the sale of Kendall's fibre products division, which makes bandages and other non-woven fabrics, to International Paper, the large pulp and paper group.

Colgate will also book a gain from selling out of a Kendall joint venture in West Germany.

## Records division gives sharp boost to CBS

BY OUR NEW YORK STAFF

CBS, the rapidly restructuring US media group which is considering an offer of some \$2bn for its record business from Sony of Japan, yesterday reported sharply higher profits, with CBS Records contributing most of the gain.

The strong performance of the records division may strengthen the apparent consensus in the CBS boardroom against accepting Sony's bid.

CBS earned \$58.9m or \$2.31 a share after tax in the third quarter, more than double the net profits of \$28.8m or \$1.09 last year.

The underlying improvement in the company's businesses was even greater, since nearly half of last year's profit came from discontinued operations, particularly the publishing and magazine divisions

which CBS has now sold for a total of nearly \$1.2bn.

Net income from continuing operations was \$58.7m or \$2.26 a share in the latest quarter, compared with the \$11.3m or 34 cents reported the year before.

In the last nine months, net income from continuing operations has been \$196.4m or \$7.89 a share, 31 per cent up on the \$149.9m or \$5.97 which the same business earned a year earlier.

However, Mr Laurence Tisch, president, pointed out that the strong increase was "due mainly to the growth of CBS Record profits and to a substantial reduction in interest expense."

Mr Tisch, who is the largest shareholder in CBS through his family-controlled Loews Corpora-

tion, is said to oppose the Sony bid for CBS Records, favouring a partial flotation of the business as an independent company.

CBS's broadcast group, which accounted for 55 per cent of the \$984m revenues in the third quarter, showed an 18 per cent decline in operating profits to \$39.4m. In contrast the Records group, which had revenues of \$414m, more than doubled its quarterly operating profits from \$18.2m to \$42.4m.

In the first nine months of the year, profits from the records business advanced from \$100.6m to \$141m, boosted by sales of compact disks and the unprecedented success of Michael Jackson hits.

Meanwhile, the Broadcast Group suffered a 25 per cent profit decline from \$233.6m to \$175.2m.

## LSI Logic net income highest in two years

By Louise Kehoe in San Francisco

LSI LOGIC, the US semi-custom chip manufacturer, has announced record revenues for the third-quarter and recorded its highest level of net income in nearly two years.

The company is currently riding the crest of a resurgence in the semiconductor industry and high growth in the market for its computer-customised chips.

Revenues in the third-quarter ended September 27 were \$88.9m, up 48 per cent from \$60.5m in the same quarter a year ago. Net income was \$3.2m, or 8 cents a share, compared with a net loss of \$1.3m in the same period last year.

Mr Wilfred Corrigan, chairman and chief executive said: "LSI Logic showed a sharp turnaround in profitability as a result of a large increase in revenues, a better mix of more profitable business, and a substantial reduction in operating costs as a percentage of revenues during the third-quarter. The company expects these trends will continue."

Seagate Technology of Scotts Valley, California, a major supplier of "hard" disk drives to the personal computer industry, reported a 40 per cent drop in earnings for its first fiscal quarter ended September 30.

The company blamed severe price competition, declining market share, and a faster than expected industry switch from established products to new 3.5 inch drives.

In April IBM announced new personal computers with 3.5 inch drives, setting an industry trend. Net sales for the quarter were \$226m, up 18.6 per cent on the \$190m reported for the same quarter last year. Net income for the quarter was \$14.6m, or 30 cents a share, down from \$24.5m or 50 cents a share a year ago.

## Output at Gencor mines suffers after 3-week work stoppage

BY JIM JONES IN JOHANNESBURG

EFFECTS of the three-week stoppage by black miners in August varied considerably on the mines managed by Gencor, the first of the South African mining groups to report September-quarter results for strike-hit mines.

Most of the mines managed to maintain gold recovery grades by milling ore from surface stockpiles, but they suffered drops in the tonnage of ore processed.

On production Kromas was the worst affected of the group's mines. Its black workforce is particularly militant following one of the country's most severe mine disasters, and this year's wage strike cut mill throughput by more than 20 per cent to 226,000 tonnes in the September

quarter from 335,500 tonnes in the June quarter.

The gold recovery grade dropped to 5.3 grams per tonne from 6.1 g/t. Neighbouring Winkelbank suffered a 14.4 per cent cut in mill throughput but maintained its recovery grade at 5.4 g/t. Lower throughputs led to some substantial percentage increases in the unit costs of mining and processing each tonne of ore even though the strikers were not paid for three weeks.

Black miners' wage increases have added about 5 per cent to total operating costs and the increases given to white workers have added a slightly lower percentage.

The group as a whole suffered a 17 per cent decline in after-tax in-

come to R128.7m (\$82.3m). Gold production fell by 8.1 per cent to 21,532 kg from 23,730 kg.

Paradoxically Buffelsfontein, the largest of the Gencor group's mines, increased its production rate to 73,000 tonnes in the September quarter from 67,800 tonnes in the June quarter.

The mine has been affected by ore shortages after failing to find expected reserves in the newly opened Lucas Block. It is now recovering from that following several quarters of increased development to open new mining areas.

An explosion at St Helena's new shaft has delayed shaft development by about eight months.

## SNCF to sell Air Inter stake

BY GEORGE GRAHAM IN PARIS

SNCF, the French national railway company, has agreed to sell its 11.5 per cent stake in Air Inter, the domestic airline, to Air France, which already holds about 25 per cent of the company.

The sale reinforces the dominant position of Air France - the country's flagship carrier on international routes - in the capital of the domestic airline.

It has recently come under attack from UTA, the private sector

French airline specialising in Africa and the Pacific, which has been buying up Air Inter shares and has raised its stake to about 28 per cent.

UTA, which is controlled by the Chargeurs group of Mr Jerome Seydoux, launched the stock market assault in retaliation against the French Government's refusal to allow it to start flying to Newark, New Jersey, in the US.

Air Inter has been expanding traffic on its domestic services but

has been keen to expand into Europe.

Mr Pierre Eelsen, company chairman, said recently that he viewed the state-controlled Air France - which already serves Europe - as a more natural partner than UTA.

The sale of the 11.5 per cent Air Inter stake has to be approved by the SNCF board next week and then by the French Transport Ministry.

## INI to place 39% of cellulose unit

By Tom Burns in Madrid

INSTITUTO NACIONAL de Industria (INI), Spain's public-sector holding company, is to place 39 per cent of the equity of Ence, its profitable cellulose company, on the Madrid stock exchange during the first two weeks of January.

The Ence share offering follows a successful stock-market operation last year involving Gesa, a state-owned energy company in the Balearic islands, which was heavily oversubscribed. It brought in 54,000 new shareholders and reduced INI's stake in Gesa from 94 to 56 per cent.

The decision to float part of Ence's equity, which will bring INI's equity in the company down to 54 per cent, is part of a general step-by-step strategy to reproduce the success of the Gesa flotation in selected INI companies.

Ence produces some 500,000 tonnes of cellulose paste annually at its plants in Huelva, southern Spain, and in Pontevedra in the north-west. It exports about 80 per cent of its output.

Executives said they expected to raise Ence's income this year from Ptas32.5bn (\$271m) last year to Ptas39.7bn and to earn pretax profits of some Ptasbn.

INI's share offerings in selected companies falls short of a privatisation programme, as the state holding company will, according to the present strategy, in all cases retain control of the companies.

The main guideline of the equity programme is to introduce what INI executives call "market discipline" into the public companies.

Among the INI companies shortlisted to follow the Gesa and Ence path are Iberia Airlines, which has announced a strong return to profitability, and Endesa, an electrical utility which is the public holding's chief profit earner.

## BP offer price forecast falls

BY RICHARD TOMKINS IN LONDON

THE DOWNTURN on the London and New York stock markets yesterday has sharply lowered forecasts of the price to be set on the British Petroleum share offering today.

The most likely figure now appears to be 330p a share, some 10p to 15p less than had been predicted earlier this week. At that price, the value of the offering would be £7.2bn (\$11.6bn).

BP's existing shares closed 11p down at 351p yesterday as London

prices fell after the poor opening on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index ended the day 27.3 points down at 2,323.8.

With the market expecting the new shares to be offered at a 5 per cent discount to the existing stock, 330p would represent the nearest rounded-down figure. The exact price will be announced to the London stock market at the start of dealings today.

Some 2.19bn shares are to be offered for sale in what will be the

biggest share offering Britain has yet seen. Of these, 458.8m are new shares being issued to raise £1.5bn for BP, and the rest represent the sale of the Government's remaining 31.5 per cent stake in the company.

Half the shares will be offered to the UK public at the price being announced today, and the other half will be sold through an international offer in which institutional investors in Britain and overseas will be invited to tender at the fixed price or above.

## AMR result fails to reflect sales rise

BY OUR NEW YORK STAFF

AMR, parent of American Airlines, yesterday revealed that its strong growth in revenues is still not working through to profit with a sharp fall in third-quarter earnings to \$57.1m or \$1.41 a share.

AMR, which operates the second largest US airline, described results in the September quarter as "disappointing". It showed a 27.7 per cent

increase in revenues to \$1,980m but a 28 per cent drop in net income.

In the nine months to September, AMR reported earnings of \$199.2m or \$3.20 a share as against \$272.8m or \$4.47 a share in the first three quarters of 1986. Revenues were \$5.3bn against \$4.5bn.

American has been expanding its network aggressively but has run

into heavy interest and other costs and has had difficulty sustaining fare increases.

Mr Robert Crandall, chairman and chief executive, said: "We are disappointed with our third-quarter financial results. We must and will lower costs further in the months ahead."

## Midland Bank sets up life company venture

BY ERIC SHORT IN LONDON

MIDLAND BANK of the UK has become the latest of the country's clearing banks to set up a life company by linking with a leading British insurance group, Commercial Union Assurance.

The move will enable Midland to offer customers a complete range of own-brand financial and investment contracts.

Development costs of the new company, yet to be named, will be between £10m and £20m (\$16m and \$29m), with Midland holding 65 per cent of the equity and Commercial Union 35 per cent.

The formation of a life company was an inevitable result of Mid-

land's decision to become a company representative under recent financial services legislation.

The bank already has its own unit trust company and it wants to sell its own life and pension contracts rather than those of another company. The bank had to have its life company operating by next April, when the relevant part of the legislation comes into effect.

Barclays Bank and Lloyds Bank, which have also decided to be company representatives, already have their own established life companies.

Mr Peter Axten, Midland's personal financial services director,

said the bank had decided against buying a life company because the prices were too high.

Midland decided to link up with an established life company rather than build its own team because the time pressure meant it needed the administrative expertise quickly.

Midland has further confounded expectations by having an equity link rather than owning the new company completely and hiring CU as managers on a fee basis.

However, it will be a Midland company, with the bank handling marketing, underwriting and in-

vestments through its Midland Montagu investment arm. CU, which will handle the administration, will be involved in, but not originate, the type of contracts to be marketed.

Mr Axten intends the new company to be operative by April at the latest. It will be solely a unit-linked life company. Its first products will be concentrated on mortgage-related contracts - an area where the bank is active. The move will also enable Midland to offer a range of personal pension contracts from next July when this aspect of proposed pensions changes comes into being.

September 18, 1987

**El Greco, Inc.**

has been acquired by

**El Greco Acquisition, Inc.**

a new corporation formed by

**Pentland Industries PLC**

and

**Charles Cole**

The undersigned acted as financial advisor to  
El Greco, Inc. in this transaction.

**Shearson Lehman Brothers International**











## Goodman, Wattie merger approved

BY CHRIS SHERWELL IN SYDNEY

A NEW Australasian food manufacturing plant with global ambitions was created yesterday after approval was given in New Zealand for a merger between Goodman Fielder and Wattie Industries.

The merger will create an entity with powerful interests in Australia and New Zealand and a rapidly expanding presence in Europe, South-East Asia and South America.

Goodman Fielder Wattie, as the group will be known, will have a staff of 27,000, sales in excess of A\$3bn (US\$2.17bn) and a market capitalisation of some A\$3.7bn, putting it in the top 10 Australian companies and the top three in New Zealand.

The group will spearhead the marketing of the region's food products internationally. It links Goodman's strengths in flour, bread, oils and gelatine with Wattie's as a producer and processor of dairy, meat, fruit and frozen food products.

The merger becomes effective on November 23. Although the board will meet in both Australia and New Zealand, the new group will be based in Sydney. Plans are going ahead to list its shares in London in early December.

Yesterday's approval for the merger came from New Zealand's Commerce Commission, the country's antitrust body, almost 11 months after the deal was first announced.

Initially, the commission found that the proposal would result in the acquisition or strengthening of a dominant position in certain markets, spe-

cially flour milling, bread, pastry products and poultry.

But Goodman and Wattie subsequently gave written undertakings to dispose of certain assets within six months in order to overcome the objections.

These disposals, worth only A\$18m, include the sale by Goodman of its interests in a yeast company, two flour mills and two bakeries and the sale by Wattie of one flour mill.

Under the terms of the merger, Wattie shareholders will receive seven shares in Goodman Fielder Wattie for every six shares held. Holders of specified preference shares in Wattie are being offered comparable terms.

Outside Australasia, Goodman Fielder currently owns 21 per cent of Rankin Hovis McDougall, the British food manufacturer, and has a 40 per cent interest in Leiner do Brasil, the largest gelatine manufacturer in South America.

Wattie has a majority stake in Cold Storage Holdings, the Singapore supermarket group, and a tie-up with Fraser and Neave, South-East Asia's best-known soft drinks manufacturer.

Goodman's stake in RHM gives it another, indirect entry into the Asia-Pacific region through Cerberus Pacific, the British company's Singapore-quoted subsidiary.

Goodman Fielder is the product of a 1986 merger between the Goodman group in New Zealand and Fielder Gillespie Davis and Allied Mills, both of Australia. In its maiden results it reported revenues of A\$1.7bn and an after-tax equity-accounted profit of A\$141m.

## Top management changes at Ford

BY JAMES BUCHAN IN NEW YORK

Ford Motor, the diversified US motor group which is enjoying a banner year, has announced a host of changes in its senior management which are evidently designed to integrate the group's far-flung motor operations, manage its diversifications and reward promising executives.

The most important of the changes promotes Mr Harold Posing, 61, who was president, to vice-chairman under Mr Donald E. Petersen, 58, Ford chief executive. Mr Posing, 58, who has been heading Ford's international automotive operations, fills a new position as president of Ford Automotive.

Activities of all Ford automotive operations worldwide, Mr Petersen said: "While the number of actions being announced at this time is considerable, they represent a normal evolution and have received careful consideration over many months."

Wall Street analysts said they believe that the promotions are partly designed to reflect the changing shape of the company and to reward key executives for a good performance, which has just led to the largest dividend increase in the company's history.

Mr Petersen will be replaced as head of international automotive operations by Mr Alan Gilmore, who was chief financial officer. A new division has been created for Ford's fast-growing financial services operations, under Mr James Ford.

The company, which has amassed more than \$9bn in surplus cash from its operations,



Mr Philip Benton (left), new president of Ford Automotive, and Mr Donald E. Petersen, Ford's chief executive

has also created a new group to advise Mr Petersen on diversification. The group will be headed by Mr Bruce Blythe, who was head of business strategy for Ford of Europe.

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## Foreigners to join JAL sale managers

BY STEFAN WAGSTYL IN TOKYO

FOREIGN securities companies are to join the list of managers handling the forthcoming sale by the Japanese Government of shares in Japan Air Lines.

It will be the first time overseas companies have managed a government share offering in Japan, marking another step in the internationalisation of the Tokyo financial markets.

Foreign brokers protested when they were excluded from managing the Government's sale of shares in Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, which is due next month. The Ministry of Finance ruled out foreign managers on the grounds that foreign investors were not entitled to buy NTT shares.

Ministry of Finance officials were yesterday quoted as saying that foreign participation in managing the JAL issue in December would help avoid international friction between Japan and its trading partners.

However, foreign involvement is likely to be very small. Officials said that foreign companies would be selected on the basis of their involvement in the underwriting of long-term government bonds. Seven overseas companies have shares amounting to fractions of one per cent each in this business.

The Government is selling its remaining 34.5 per cent stake in JAL. It previously sold JAL shares in 1981.

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## Campbell Capital formed

BY OUR SYDNEY CORRESPONDENT

A TEAM of 16 executives and staff who resigned from an Australian merchant bank in August yesterday announced the launch of a "new independent investment bank" called Campbell Capital.

The team was formerly with Partnership Pacific, which was taken over by Westpac three years ago and virtually lost its identity as it was absorbed into

the banking group.

Campbell Capital, named after Robert Campbell, an early Sydney merchant, has A\$33m (US\$23.3m) in long-term funds in the form of preference capital and subordinated debt from Ariadne, the Australian arm of Mr Bruce Judge, the New Zealand entrepreneur.

The 16 executives each own a A\$1 share in the company

## Delta Gold platinum deal

BY GORDON CRAM

DELTA GOLD, an Australian precious metals exploration company, has been awarded exclusive mineral rights by the Zimbabwe Government over a large portion of the country's Hartley platinum complex where Union Carbide of the US had let its title lapse.

Mr Peter Vanderspey, Delta Gold chairman, said it expected to produce up to 100,000 ounces of platinum a year as well as

80,000 oz palladium and 30,000 oz gold. The remainder of the area is controlled by the UK-owned Rio Tinto Zimbabwe and interests linked with Anglo American of South Africa.

Analysts believe that the deposits, though significant, occur in thin strata and if brought to production by the early 1990s would coincide with an increased output from South Africa.

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## INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS &amp; COMPANIES

## A crop of issues in a variety of currencies

BY CLARE PEARSON

A crop of new issues in a variety of currencies surfaced in the Eurobond market yesterday afternoon, with a \$300m bond for Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, led by Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) standing out as the most successful.

Most of the other deals were priced with a view to the markets improving after a sell-off early yesterday afternoon in the wake of the announcement of a US trade gap in August.

But Nippon's five-year bond looked fairly good with an 11 1/4 per cent coupon and 10 1/4 issue price, to give an initial yield spread over Canadian government bonds of 67 basis points.

Later in the afternoon, this differential had narrowed by around 6 basis points while the bond was bid just inside its 1 1/4 per cent fees.

Merrill Lynch Capital Markets took advantage of the fall in the US Treasury bond market to provide an optically attractive 10 per cent coupon on a \$100m two-year deal for its parent, Merrill Lynch.

In spite of this coupon, some dealers said the bond's initial yield spread over US Treasury bonds of around 80 basis points was too low, given the uncertain state of the market.

However, the lead-manager said the bond provided switching opportunities out of an outstanding two-year bond for Merrill Lynch, now trading at around 45 basis points over the Treasury yield curve. The deal, priced at 101, was quoted

around the level of its 1 1/4 per cent fees.

Goldman Sachs International's \$200m 8 1/4 per cent two-year issue for the Dominican Republic (Cayman Islands) looked if anything more ambitious. Priced at 101, it gave a mere 61 basis point spread over US Treasury bond yields. It was quoted by the lead-manager at less than 1 1/4 bid, 1/4 point outside its fees.

Elsewhere, Chase Manhattan Bank with Morgan Stanley International as joint lead-manager, launched a \$50m bond for Finnish Export Credit, designed to take advantage of under-supply in the Eurobond market.

However, dealers said retail Continental investors did not favour Scandinavian names and might dislike the bond's long first coupon period - a feature which has gained a bad reputation in the Australian dollar bond market.

Taking this feature into account, the 5 1/4-year 10 1/4 per cent bond, priced at 101 1/4, provided an annualised yield to maturity of 10 1/2 per cent.

As the gilt market weakened during the afternoon, it was bid outside its 1 1/4 per cent fees at less than 100.

ANZ Merchant Bank led a three-year \$500m 12 1/4 per cent bond for its parent, Australia and New Zealand Banking

Group. The lead manager said the deal, priced at 101 1/4, had been received "surprisingly well" given current weakness in the sector.

Daiva Europe led a \$80m equity warrants bond for Hokkaido Gas, with a 3 1/4 per cent coupon indication, while Nomura International led a \$100m bond, also with equity warrants, for Kelo Tetta Electric Railway, carrying an indicated 8 1/4 per cent coupon. Both five-year deals were priced at par.

D-Mark Eurobond prices opened around 1/4 point higher in a continuing correction after the news that they would not be subject to West Germany's planned withholding tax. However, most of these gains were given up after the release of the US trade figures.

The market shrugged off the Bundesbank's announcement of a 3.85 per cent allocation rate for its latest repurchase agreement, 10 basis points higher than its previous rate.

In Switzerland, foreign bond prices were unchanged in low turnover. Swiss Bank Corporation led a \$750m five-year 5 1/4 per cent bond for General Electric, priced at 99 1/4.

Banque Paribas (Suisse) led a five-year equity warrants bond for Nordbank Corporation, the US property company, convertible into shares of its subsidiary, National Heritage. The bond, whose size will be in the range \$500m to \$750m, has an indicated 8 1/4 per cent coupon and is priced at 104.

## Japanese clampdown on bond futures

By Shigen Wajima in Tokyo

JAPANESE securities houses are to clamp down on the credit granted to investors trading bond futures, in the wake of the Tachibana Chemical Industries affair, in which an industrial company has been brought to the brink of bankruptcy by heavy bond futures losses.

The move comes largely in response to informal pressure from the Ministry of Finance, which believes that Tachibana highlighted the risks being taken in the futures market by many investors - both corporate and private.

The Japan Securities Dealers' Association is now studying ways of meeting the ministry's request for tighter controls without turning away profitable business.

Nomura, the largest Japanese securities company, said yesterday: "We have to control risks without cutting relations between investors and the securities companies."

Nomura said no final decision had yet been taken. But according to reports in Tokyo, the securities companies intend to limit the positions granted to public-traded corporations to twice their net assets. Other companies would be limited to positions equal to their net assets or their disclosed assets, whichever is the larger.

Individual investors would be restricted to trading positions equal to a maximum of 10 times their deposits, or ¥20m.

If these rules are adopted, the hope is that they might prevent another company suffering the fate of Tachibana. Tachibana, with net assets of ¥11.5bn, had ¥100m invested in bond futures in the summer, before losses began falling sharply. The company lost ¥22m as a result.

However, security company executives pointed out that everything depended on how closely new rules were observed. For example, with regard to corporations by different subsidiaries in the same group.

Any restrictions are not thought likely to have a sizeable impact on the weight of securities in the investment in the Tokyo bond and equity markets. Traders say that most investors use bond futures defensively to cover underlying bond holdings, rather than speculatively.

Swedish debt office chief retires early

By Sven Webb in Stockholm

MR LARS KALDEREN, director-general of Sweden's National Debt Office since 1977, has decided to retire from his post early. He will leave on February 1, 1988, at the age of 68, although his term was not due to expire until April 1988.

Mr Kalderen has said that he wants to return to working as a specialist adviser to developing countries. He worked for SIDA, the Swedish development aid agency, in the 1960s and has always been interested in the economic problems faced by developing countries.

As one of the key figures in the Swedish financial community, Mr Kalderen was highly respected and was credited with helping to build up the money market in the 1960s and introducing new financial instruments.

He has denied that his resignation is in any way connected with recent criticism in the press over the fact that he received a consultancy fee from SIDA.

Civil servants are governed by strict regulations when it comes to consultancy payments and the question is now being studied by Behlman, a firm of independent auditors.

In a few weeks' time, the Swedish parliament is expected to pass a Bill which will make the National Debt Office responsible to the Government rather than to parliament, as is currently the case.

The change, which was described by a senior official as "a mere formality, since it is the normal thing for the debt office to report to the Government rather than to parliament," has been regarded favourably by most parties, except the small Centre Party.

The debt office would remain an independent authority and, according to the official, "we will still borrow in our own name and have the responsibility." The office, which is responsible for the Swedish Government's domestic and overseas borrowing, will continue to keep in close contact with the Finance Ministry and central bank.

The total national debt stands at SKR608.5bn or 62.9 per cent of gross domestic product, according to figures from June 30. Of this, SKR481bn is domestic debt and SKR127.5bn is foreign.

The national debt grew rapidly in the late 1970s and early 1980s, but over the past couple of years it has started to decline as a proportion of GDP (from 67 per cent last year), though it has increased slightly in nominal terms since last year.

## Framework sought for international investor protection

## Call on UK to launch initiative

BY ALEXANDER NICOLL, EUROMARKETS EDITOR

MR STANISLAS Yassukovich, chairman of Merrill Lynch Europe, yesterday called on the British authorities to launch an international initiative to create a framework for coordinated regulation of securities markets along the lines of the Cooke Committee, which oversees banking activities.

The purpose, he said, would not be to achieve total harmonisation of regulation but to minimise obvious gaps and "black holes" which, he said, increased the systemic risk associated with highly volatile securities markets.

Mr Yassukovich was addressing a Financial Times conference, staged in conjunction with the Securities Association, on the impact of Britain's Financial Services Act on international securities business.

Mr Andrew Large, chairman of the Securities Association and of the conference, said debates about regulation had centred on "ensuring adequate investor protection and, at the same time, not hampering London's competitiveness as an international capital centre."

He said TSA was seeking to identify areas, such as in information systems, to determine capital adequacy, where the current timetable cannot be met.

Mr John Young, TSA chief executive, said TSA was looking at ways in which its capital adequacy rules could be introduced in a sequence which members could comply with and would help with sensible alleviations in the early stages if it could.

"There's absolutely no point in insisting on something which is physically impossible. But we can't move at the pace of the slowest ship in the convoy either."

Mr Young pointed to several areas in which work was being done following publication of draft capital adequacy rules in the summer and practitioners' response to them.

TSA was close to a solution on setting capital requirements for domestic underwriters, a subject on which British merchant banks and issuing houses "are still a doughy and independent bunch and know how to fight a corner."

Mr Young would soon publish a regime for banks with an integrated securities business, though problems remained in setting supervisory responsibilities for such firms in the whole-sale money markets.

TSA was close to finishing work on setting capital requirements for branches, which do not usually carry the capital

and on-site controls that other types of business do.

The SIB had agreed to delay regulations for client money during settlement until October

He said "level playing field considerations" would soon create pressure for international convergence in this area.

Ms Elizabeth Brimelow, executive director of County NatWest, outlined the background and implications of the Financial Services Act as they affected the framing of TSA's conduct of business rules. She detailed areas still to be clarified, and noted that Parliament had still to rule on whether prices of secondary offerings of shares could be stabilised.

Mr Richard Lawson, deputy chairman of TSA and of Greenwell Montagu Stockbrokers, defended the Association's plans to introduce individual registrations and examinations for executives, representatives and traders of member firms. Simply making firms responsible for their employees' actions was a less satisfactory method of investor protection than making the individuals themselves responsible, he said.

Mr George Nissen, a director of Morgan Grenfell, detailed TSA's plans for surveillance, enforcement, disciplinary, complaints and arbitration procedures. Provided they worked well, he said, there should be little need for problems to end up in court.

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1988 to give firms some breathing space.

Mr Eddie George, executive director at the Bank of England, said, although it was disappointing that the SIB/TSA and the Bank of England had not been able to set common capital adequacy tests, "it will clearly be desirable over time to achieve closer convergence between the domestic securities regulators" - which include the Bank under an agreement this year with the SIB.

## Deutsche Bank attacks Bonn tax plans

BY HANS SIMONIAN IN FRANKFURT

"IT IS NOT just competition from outside, we now have to fight our own politicians as well," said Mr Rolf Breuer, a member of the managing board of Deutsche Bank, at a conference yesterday called to consider West Germany's planned new withholding tax on savings and investments, due to be imposed in 1988.

Mr Breuer, who is among the senior executives responsible for the bank's securities business, was extremely critical about the style in which the tax proposal was announced at the weekend.

He was particularly bitter about the damage done to Germany's standing as a growing international financial centre.

"With a small plant, one has to be more careful, and that seems to have been utterly lost on our politicians," he said. "It is a sad business," Mr Breuer concluded.

Meanwhile, the finance ministry in Bonn has still not clarified the tax position of Deutschmark Eurobonds issued by the foreign subsidiaries of German borrowers.

"We have rough ideas about the law in general," said a finance ministry spokesman yesterday, "but we still have to evaluate all the details."

The ministry has already said that issues by German entities which have their "seat" and "business management" in Germany will come into the tax net. However, its lawyers and tax experts are still looking into the definition of both concepts in the context of the country's company law to see how issues by foreign subsidiaries might be affected.

The consensus in Frankfurt remains that foreign issues by German entities, like the Eurobond issues by the big banks

from Luxembourg or The Netherlands, will not be affected.

However, there is still some doubt over the matter, and some bankers think that two points, the question of guarantees and the use of the proceeds of an issue, will be decisive. Even if offshore issues guaranteed by a German parent, which uses the funds raised for its own purposes domestically, are brought into the withholding tax regime, that should leave the country's leading banks with plenty of room for manoeuvre.

"It would just take a stroke of a pen to keep the proceeds of an issue offshore," said an executive at one leading German bank.

The question of double taxation treaties, regularly mentioned by the finance ministry as a way of calming foreign investors' fears, has also come under closer scrutiny. For exam-

ple, West Germany has no treaty with Saudi Arabia, while investors in Liechtenstein would also be affected since they pay no domestic tax against which to offset any German withholding tax on their holdings of German securities.

Bankers have also been turning their attention to the treatment of swaps under the proposed new tax regime. Some think swap payments will not be affected, as payments can simply be netted off against each other. However, the banks are looking closely at the fine print.

There already suggestions that some may try to review their commitments - especially in cases where swaps have been booked on the basis of telexed cash flow projections and confirmations - where final documentation has still to be produced, well after the commencement of the transaction.

## UBS international offer with warrants

BY OUR EUROMARKETS STAFF

UNION BANK OF Switzerland (Securities) is due to price to-day an international offering of combined units of bearer shares and warrants for its parent, Union Bank of Switzerland, raising about \$200m (\$200m).

The lead-manager said yesterday that the offering, which was initially launched late on Tuesday, was being offered around its issue price and was comfortably oversubscribed.

The issue comprises 75,000

shares, each with one warrant to buy an extra share attached. The warrants are exercisable between February and December next year.

The units will be priced on the basis of the closing price in Zurich of the bearer shares plus the value of the warrants, assuming an all-in premium (the cost of the warrant plus the exercise premium) of about 15 per cent.

The bearer shares closed on

Tuesday at \$55,000. Fees for the deal total 3 1/4 per cent.

Morgan Stanley International yesterday announced an issue of 25m new shares in Johnson Electric, the Hong Kong micro motor manufacturer, which will be distributed internationally.

The issue, worth around HK\$350m (\$55m), represents a 10 per cent increase in the company's share capital. Fees total 4 per cent.

## FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

Listed are the latest international bonds for which there is an adequate secondary market.

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## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Chemicals boost H &amp; C to £35.6m

BY DAVID WALLER

A strong performance from its chemicals division helped Harrison & Crossfield, the plantations to palm oil conglomerate, muster a 30 per cent increase in pre-tax profits in the six months to the end of June.

Harrison, which has in recent years been restructuring itself against a background of falling commodity prices, generated taxable profits of £35.6m in the first half on turnover up £20m to £778m.

On Tuesday, the group announced the appointment of Mr David Hopkinson, the outgoing former chief executive fund manager M&G, as deputy chairman. Yesterday, it took a further step towards improving its image in the City by holding its first ever press conference.

Mr George Paul, chief executive, said yesterday that the results reflected the group's heavy investment in chemicals over a number of years and its

decision to focus on its core activities.

Profits from the chemicals division rose by £3.5m to £18.4m, 40 per cent of total operating profits of £45m. Manufacturing of chromium and iron oxide was credited with doing particularly well.

The second largest contribution to profits came from the 85,000 hectares of plantations under the group's management. Improved palm oil and rubber prices caused a 64 per cent rise in profits to £2.7m.

Mr Paul said that the proportion of profits from plantations would continue to drop, thus reducing the group's exposure to volatile commodity prices. "But plantations will remain a major earner for the group," he stated.

Paul, which the chief executive claimed to be the most profitable and efficient multi-company in Europe, made £7.7m as against £7.9m in the comparable period last year. Mr Paul attributed



David Hopkinson, who was elected deputy chairman earlier this week.

but the decline to the allocation of head office costs. The result included no contribution from Associated British Mills, bought from Dalgely for

£20m in July.

General trading showed a decline of £200,000 to £2.7m, although this represents a recovery from the second half of last year when it made only £800,000. Reflecting the housing boom in South East England, timber and building supplies improved from £4.3m to £6.2m.

Some 20 per cent of turnover originated from the US. Although the proportion of profit was not disclosed, Harrison said that its US earnings were protected by accumulated tax losses.

This helped the tax charge decline as a percentage of taxable profits and earnings per share rose by 48 per cent to 18p. The interim dividend was raised from 4p to 10p - partly to eliminate the traditional imbalance between first and second half payments. For the full year, the dividend will be no less than 24p, against 22p last year.

see Lex

## Abbey Life encouraged by opening six months

Abbey Life Group, the UK life and financial services company, yesterday announced a 20 per cent increase in its interim dividend.

It also reported that the growth rate in new initial commissions had accelerated in the third quarter from the 15 per cent recorded in the first half of 1987, with the agency division leading the way.

Mr Michael Hopper, the chairman, said: "Sales of regular premium life products have been particularly buoyant, helped by continued growth in our mortgage business and more latterly Living Assurance."

Living Assurance, launched in June, pays out a capital sum not only on death but also on the attainment of certain severe illnesses.

The interim dividend is 3p, up from 2.5p in 1986. The increase was somewhat ahead of analysts' expectations yet despite this and the statement on third quarter commission growth, the shares fell yesterday in a weak market, to close at 235p, down 7p.

Mr Hopper said that progress in the year to date had been most encouraging. Premium income for the half year rose by 6 per cent to £22.5m (£20.6m), while life funds grew by 12 per cent to £2.65m from £2.35m. New initial commissions amounted to £24.7m, against £22.2m. Mortgage advances totalled £78.4m (£41).

Newmair/Microlease

Newmair, the private company, has acquired a management buy-out of Microlease, the US-based leasing group, now has 40 per cent of the company. It is saving all commissions to the bid save that it achieves more than 50 per cent acceptance by November 1.

Yearling bonds

Yearling bonds totalling £1.5m at 10.5%, redeemable on October 19 1988, have been issued by the following local authorities: Taverham (Norfolk) £0.25m; Freston District Council £0.25m; Wansbeck District Council £0.25m; West Lancashire District Council £0.25m.

## Motor parts growth plus interest cut lift Guthrie

THE VIRTUAL elimination of interest charges together with strong growth on the automotive components side was reflected in a jump in pre-tax profits of Guthrie Corporation from £8.8m to £9.3m in the six months ended June 30 1987.

Mr Jack Green-Armytage, managing director, said it was the strong cash flow from the group's trading operations, together with the proceeds from the flotation last year - Guthrie returned to the market in June 1986 as a diversified industrial holding company, the plantations interests having been sold off - enabled the elimination of interest charges.

However, operating profits also showed further growth rising 13 per cent on turnover which was up 9 per cent to £102.4m (£148.7m).

The automotive components division sustained the strong performance it produced last year. The anticipated slowdown in sales at Butler Metals was more than offset by strong demand for the plastic components produced by Butler Polymers.

Profits were maintained in the aviation services division, and the purchase of two more

airport fixed base operations - at St Petersburg, Florida and Austin, Texas will further strengthen Guthrie's fixed base network. Approval has been given by the Federal Aviation Administration for the noise reduction nacelle programme for DC8 aircraft and production and installation of nacelle kits has commenced.

As in previous years the electrical equipment division is expected to earn the bulk of its profits in the second half of the year. Ajax has made further progress following measures taken last year to reduce costs and, at Trench, the order book remains strong.

Elsewhere, the fire protection division recovered well from the sharp downturn in the second half of 1986 and in textiles and floor coverings, the Australian companies started the year well and Duralay continued to strengthen its position in the UK underlayer and carpet accessories markets. Improved results from Guthrie (Malawi) were reflected in the performance of the trading division.

The company are paying a first interim dividend of 2.5p

since returning to the market. After tax of £2m (£1m) and minority interests of £13,000 (£81,000) the attributable profit was £7.3m (£5.2m) or five pence of 8.9p (7.9p) per share.

Guthrie is an "accidental" rather than a "designed" conglomerate - being essentially the bits left over from the old plantations group. That makes its progress more, rather than less, impressive - its growth has had to come organically instead of from acquisitions. Although the mix of the group is a bit of a ragbag, there are two divisions - fire equipment and electricals - where recovery is underway. And the company has shown, in the automotive components division, what it can do to improve margins. There is plenty of scope to boost returns throughout the group and with the balance sheet healthy, Guthrie can afford to make some bolt-on acquisitions, despite the fact its paper is hardly highly rated. Assuming £23m this year, the shares are on a prospective price of just under 15. Although the tax charge is due to edge up, the shares appear to be undervalued compared with some of the fancy p/ies in other sectors.

## UEI surges to £11m and orders at record

SUBSTANTIAL progress in healthy markets had sustained an even handed growth throughout UEI the directors said yesterday announcing a 33 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £7.1m to £11.0m for the six months to July 31.

Turnover of this electronics and engineering group rose from £50.61m to £70.87m and the operating profit from £8.26m to £11.73m; interest charges were sharply lower, down from £1.1m to £0.50m. After deducting tax of £4.15m (£2.7m) and minority interests of £70,000 (£nil), net earnings per share came out at

10.5p (8.4p). There were no extraordinary items this time (£500,000).

The interim dividend is increased from 2.1p to 2.3p.

About half of profits came from Quantel, with the balance evenly distributed between the other divisions. Around 65 to 70 per cent of the group's business was done internationally, 35 per cent of it in the US.

At the present level of business, the directors said, the group looked forward to the full financial year with confidence. Order books were full and at an all-time high.

Earlier this year UEI acquired Miles 33 for some £28m and full benefits of this acquisition will be coming through in the second half-year.

comment

UEI's Paintbox may be revolutionising video art but analysts were certainly already in the picture about these figures, and their full year forecasts did not shift from £25m. The shepherding of the proposed merger with Oxford Instruments now appears to be a positive boon; although the acquisitions of Miles 33 and SSL contributed substantially

to these figures, the company now intends to concentrate on organic growth. There is plenty of that around, with even Cosworth racing ahead - its engines just won their tenth Indianapolis 500 and growth of 20-25 per cent looks sustainable in the medium term. At 50p, the shares seem to take account of that growth; the prospective p/e is around 22. However the group is shifting towards the printing sector which may well give it greater long term security than broadcasting, despite Paintbox's wonders.

## Spirax-Sarco jumps to £8m midway

Spirax-Sarco Engineering, which had a fairly static 1986 year, yesterday reported a £1.07m improvement in pre-tax profits to £7.98m for the half year ended June 30.

Turnover rose from £42.79m to £45.31m and at the trading level profits pushed ahead from £6.61m to £7.59m. Mr Jim Parsons, chairman, said the profit margin of 16.4 per cent (15 per cent) reflected the improvement seen in the second half of 1986.

He added that the improved level of order intake achieved in the opening half year had continued through the third quarter - the group is an international specialist in fluid control equipment.

First half tax accounted for £2.98m (£2.7m), the allocation to the share ownership scheme £155,000 (£130,000) and minority £101,000 (£128,000).

Earnings per share amounted to 6.7p (5.6p). The interim dividend is lifted from 1.5p to 1.7p.

Mr Parsons said the group increased its share in a number of markets around the world and continued to benefit from its expanding product range and from the capital investment programme.

Although the steam speciality market in the UK and Europe remained quiet, the US and Canadian operations achieved growth in business. Elsewhere, in particular

South Korea, most of the Spirax-Sarco operations showed good improvements both in business levels and profitability.

The Drayton business continued to perform strongly in the UK heating control market and again achieved increased profits.

comment

Demand in Spirax-Sarco's markets for steam speciality products remained dull during the first half but the group showed its customary skill in winning more blood out of the stone. Although the contribution from UK and Europe was little changed, two years of

heavy spending on marketing in the US and Canada levelled off and the group began to reap the rewards in the form of increased market share, with a consequent boost to margins. Exchange rates, meanwhile, remained broadly neutral, with the strength of European currencies balanced by the weakness of the dollar. For the full year, analysts are looking for £18.75m, producing a price/earnings multiple of 15 at yesterday's 235p. The modest premium to the sector reflects the company's 20 consecutive years of trading profits growth, though the slightly steeper nature of the progress makes the shares relatively dull performers in a bull market.



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## Public Works Loan Board Rates

Effective October 14		Quota loans repaid		Non-quota loans A* repaid	
Term	By ERM†	At 10%‡	By ERM†	At 10%‡	At 10%‡
Over 1 up to 2	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%
Over 2 up to 3	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%
Over 3 up to 4	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%
Over 4 up to 5	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%
Over 5 up to 6	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Over 6 up to 7	10%	10%	10%	10%	11%
Over 7 up to 8	10%	10%	10%	10%	11%
Over 8 up to 9	10%	10%	10%	10%	11%
Over 9 up to 10	10%	10%	10%	10%	11%
Over 10 up to 15	10%	10%	10%	11%	10%
Over 15 up to 25	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Over 25	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%

\* Non-quota loans B are 1 per cent higher in which case than non-quota loans A. † Equal instalments of principal. ‡ Repayment by half-yearly annuity (fixed equal half-yearly payments to include principal and interest). § With half-yearly payments of interest only.

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## UK COMPANY NEWS

## CRH spends £56m in Spanish deal

BY ANDREW TAYLOR

CRH, the Irish Republic's sole cement manufacturer, has beaten off strong French and British competition to make its first acquisition in the rapidly expanding Spanish construction market.

The group, which will this year earn more than 70 per cent of its operating profit from overseas, yesterday announced it had acquired Catalan Concrete Group from Fuerzas Electricas de Cataluña, the troubled Barcelona-based electrical utility.

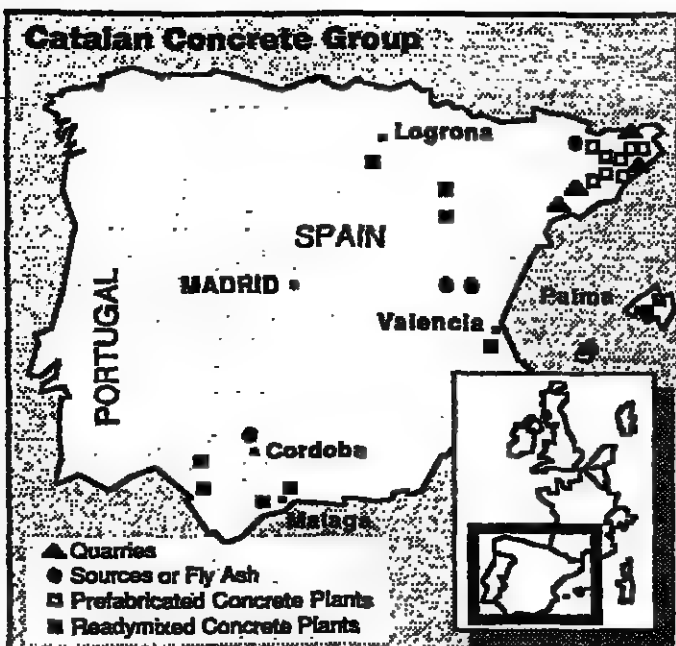
The purchase price, including the acquisition of debts of £222.2m, was £262.6m (£26.4m).

Lafarge Coppee, France's biggest cement manufacturer, Société des Ciments Français, France's biggest aggregates producer, and Steelco, the fast-growing British building materials group were also understood to have submitted bids for Catalan, which was sold by auction.

Fuerzas Electricas de Cataluña (FECSA), which last week announced it was close to reaching an agreement with creditors on a restructuring more than £170m (£1.7bn) of borrowings, was advised by the London mergers and acquisitions team of Merrill Lynch, the US investment bank.

Catalan Concrete supplies just under a third of all ready-mixed concrete in Catalonia, the industrial north-east region of Spain which includes Barcelona where the 1992 Olympics Games is due to be held.

CRH, formerly known as Cement Roadstone, has previously claimed that the region would become one of Europe's most exciting construction markets during the next five years, with



CRH's principal base is Catalonia where it operates from 49 plants. The company also has 11 other plants on the Spanish mainland and the Balearic Islands.

Operating profits of the group rose to £14.1m on sales of £244m in the first six months of this year. This compared with profits of £13.8 and sales of £236.5m for the whole of last year.

The high cost of borrowings used to finance the company's expansion meant that the group had incurred a pre-tax loss for several years up to 1986. It has since doubled its capacity since 1982 following a decade during which the Spanish construction industry suffered a long and serious decline.

Mr Harry Sheridan, CRH's general manager-finance, said he expected Catalan to contribute about 10 per cent of the Irish group's operating profit. The Spanish company would strengthen CRH's involvement in mainland Europe where the group had been rather weak and where it expected to make other acquisitions.

To help finance the deal, CRH planned to raise £27.6m (£23.8m sterling) through a placing of 18.8m shares at £200p (£179.5p sterling). The Irish group also recently announced the purchase for \$22m of Big River Industries, the US building materials group based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

CRH says that following these purchases the US would be expected to provide about a third of operating profits compared with just over 20 per cent from the UK, mainland Europe and the Irish Republic.

Barcelona, with its strong base in pharmaceutical, electrical and textile industries with good communications to the south west France, has been a major beneficiary CRH says.

Catalan Group in addition to its ready-mixed concrete interests also produces aggregates, pre-fabricated concrete products and is a leading supplier of fly-ash - a residue produced at coal-fired power stations which is increasingly being used internationally to improve the performance of, and reduce the amount of cement used in concrete.

Foreign investment in Spain rose from just over £1.82bn in 1985 to more than \$4.9bn last year.

Construction activity has been boosted by the improvement in the Spanish economy and by the sharp increase in foreign investment in the country since it joined the European Community.

Foreign investment in Spain rose from just over £1.82bn in 1985 to more than \$4.9bn last year.

## William Low share price rises as stake is revealed

BY MIKE SMITH

SHARES IN William Low & Co, the Scottish supermarket group, rose 86p to 806p yesterday after Rainbow Corporation, the New Zealand investment company, revealed a 5.17 per cent stake.

Rainbow, which has retailing interests in New Zealand and Australia, said it would not rule anything out regarding its future intentions concerning Low.

"It is early days yet," said Mr Stuart Mitchell, chief executive (UK). "We identified Low as an undervalued company. We will have to wait to see how things go before we decide on the next step."

Rainbow, which has a \$80m investment portfolio in the UK, has never launched a full takeover bid in Britain. However, analysts expect a more aggressive stance following the planned takeover of Rainbow by Brierley Investments, the acquisitive New Zealand company headed by Mr Ron Brierley.

At yesterday's close Low was capitalised at more than £105m. Mr Harvie Findlay, finance director, said yesterday that the company had been the subject of considerable speculation during the last few years. "On this occasion there may be more to it," he said.

Low had had no contact from Rainbow, other than the notification of the share purchases.

Yesterday's developments follow a period of hectic activity in the UK food retailing sector. Since the start of the year Safeway has been taken over by Argill in a \$681m deal, Tesco has acquired Hillards, the Yorkshire supermarket group, after a fierce takeover battle and Dairy Farm, a Hong Kong company, bought a stake of nearly 10 per cent in Kwik Save, another supermarket company.

Low reported interim pre-tax profits of £3.44m last April, against £3.02m. Analysts are expecting about 28m when full-year results are reported within the next month.

Although Rainbow was keeping its options open yesterday Mr Mitchell said that the Low share price had reacted in a ridiculous way. "We would be struggling to buy more shares at these levels."

In New Zealand, the Brierley bid for Rainbow has already received the assent of the majority of Rainbow's shareholders and the company expects the offer to be finalised in December.

In the UK Brierley Investments has recently been involved in takeover battles for Molins, the engineering group, and for Equity & Law Life Assurance. It won control of neither.

## Boddington rejects bid by Midsummer Leisure

BY LISA WOOD

Boddington Group, the Manchester-based brewer yesterday rejected a takeover approach by Midsummer Leisure, the fast growing discotheques, public house and snooker club business.

Midsummer Leisure earlier this week proposed to offer 15 Boddington shares for every 15 Boddington. No cash alternative was given.

Boddington said yesterday that it had considered the proposal with its financial advisers, Kleinwort Benson. It said: "The board of Boddington sees no merit in the proposal and could not recommend it."

Boddington said the Whitbread Investment Trust and Britannic Assurance, who with the board hold some 84 per cent of the ordinary share capital, had also indicated that they

supported the board in rejecting the proposal.

Midsummer Leisure, which holds a 2.1 per cent stake in Boddington, was not available for comment last night and it is unclear whether or not it will proceed with a hostile bid for Boddington.

Boddington, which celebrates its 100th anniversary as a public company next week, owns some 500 public houses and is the brewer of a cult ale, Boddington's. In the last few years the group has been criticised for not expanding more quickly into growth areas, such as lager and catering. Midsummer Leisure is an aggressive young company built up by Mr Adam Page and Mr Paul Reace who bought CAMRA (Real Ale) Investments in 1984.

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206	133	Ass. Brit. Ind. Ordinary	209	—	7.5	3.6 12.4
206	145	Ass. Brit. Ind. C.U.L.S.	209	—	10.0	4.9
41	34	Armitage & Rhodes	34	+1	4.2	12.4 4.8
142	67	BBB Design Group (USM)	100m	—	2.1	2.1 15.9
188	108	Bardon Group	187	+1	2.7	1.4 32.0
185	95	Bray Technologies	185	+1	4.7	2.5 14.8
280	130	CCL Group Ordinary	280	+3	11.5	4.1 7.2
147	99	CCL Group 11% Conv. Pref.	147	—	15.7	10.7
171	136	Carborundum Ordinary	169	—	5.4	3.2 14.7
102	91	Carborundum 7.5% Pref.	102	—	10.7	10.5
178	87	George Blair	178m	+1	3.7	2.1 4.6
145	139	Isis Group	120	—	—	—
102	99	Jackson Group	102	—	5.4	3.3 11.3
1161	321	James Burroughs	1165	+10	18.2	1.5 28.9
133	86	James Burroughs 9% Pref.	133m	—	12.9	9.7
780	500	Multihouse NV (AmstSE)	505	—	—	20.0
700	331	Record Highway Ordinary	700m	—	1.4	— 14.1
67	43	Record Highway 10% Pref.	67m	—	14.1	16.8
41	46	Robert Jenkins	47	+1	—	3.0
124	42	Suttons	124m	—	—	—
224	161	Torday & Carlisle	224	—	6.6	2.9 10.9
42	32	Trevian Holdings	42m	—	0.8	1.8 3.9
131	75	Unilever Holdings (SE)	95m	—	2.8	3.0 17.1
264	115	Walker Alexander (SE)	262m	—	5.9	2.3 19.4
201	180	W. S. Yates	201	—	17.4	8.7 20.1
175	96	West Yorks. Ind. Hosp. (USM)	170	+4	5.3	3.2 18.0

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## DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

Company	Current payment	Date of payment	Corres. - pnding div	Total for year	Total last year
Abbey Life	int	3	2.5	—	8
Alkermes	int	0.75*	0.25	—	1.5
Bray Tech.	int	1.2	1.1	—	3.45
Cradley Print	int	0.6	0.55*	0.6	0.5
Elec Hldgs	int	3.84	3.1	5.5	4.8
Guthrie Corp.	int	2.3	—	—	3.2
Harris & Crisp	int	10	4.5	—	22
Helene of London	int	0.81	0.5	—	1.63
London & Assoc	int	0.15	0.15	—	0.35
Pochin's	int	12	19	16	14
Radamec	int	0.5	—	—	0.32
Spirax-Sarco	int	1.7	1.5	—	5.7
Tay Homes	int	4.45*	3.71	6.21*	5.25
Tyco	int	4.45*	—	—	4
Turris Corp.	int	3.3	nil	—	8.5
U.E.I.	int	2.31	2.1	—	5.9

## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**WILLIAM COLLINS:** The recent rights issue of 5.15m new ordinary shares and 12.1m new ordinary "A" shares was taken up respectively as to 95.3 per cent and 94.1 per cent. The acquisition of 50 per cent of the Harper and Row Group is expected to be completed shortly.

**FAREWELL GROUP:** Company has conditionally agreed to purchase Blackburn Print for an initial \$220,000 to be satisfied by £250,000 cash and by the issue of 100,000 new ordinary shares.

**A.F. BULGIN:** Ogata AG no longer holds a disclosable position in the ordinary stock units.

**ML HOLDINGS:** Of the 4,159,372 shares offered to shareholders at 180p in connection with the acquisition of Wallop, applications have been received for 3,984,877 shares, or 96 per cent of those on offer.

**EAGLE TRUST:** Looks set to win control of Samuelson Group, for which it launched a \$48m bid on Monday. Yesterday it bought a further 120,000 shares in the television and film service company, and together with irrevocable undertakings it has received, Eagle will be the beneficial owner of 50.01 per cent of the company.

**WILLIAM COLLINS:** The recent rights issue of 5.15m new ordinary shares and 12.1m new ordinary "A" shares was taken up respectively as to 95.3 per cent and 94.1 per cent. The acquisition of 50 per cent of the Harper and Row Group is expected to be completed shortly.

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16 DECEMBER 1987

The Financial Times proposes to publish a major survey on China on Wednesday, 16 December 1987.

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## A YEAR OF STRONG GROWTH

Turnover up 114.7%  
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Profit after tax and minorities up 90.7%  
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Highlights from statement made by BIL Chief Executive, Mr. Paul Collins.

"Underlying the real substance of this year's results are the investments which have been made for the future and which constitute over half the Group's assets ..."

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- Full acquisition of Winstone Ltd.
- Subscription for a 15% interest in privatisation of Petroleum Corporation of New Zealand Ltd.
- Full integration of Auckland Gas Company Ltd and East Coast Gas Supply Ltd with Welgas Holdings Ltd.
- Increase in NZI Corporation Ltd shareholding to 32%.
- Major investment in Woolworths Ltd of Australia.
- UK investments in Ocean Transport & Trading plc, Molins plc and Equity & Law plc.
- Major investments by IEP in Union Discount Co. of London plc, CalMat Co., Diamond Crystal Salt Co., Everest & Jennings Inc., Oglebay Norton Co., South International Inc., Union Special Inc. and Wreather Corporation.

"... The next phase of the company's growth is to consolidate this position and build on the investment base already established offshore ..."

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	Year to 30th June 1987	Year to 30th June 1986	Percentage Change
Turnover	2,650.7	1,234.6	+114.7
Profit before tax	250.6	147.2	+70.2
Profit after tax	223.7	127.9	+74.9
Profit after tax and minorities	126.7	66.4	+90.7
Adjusted earnings per share	12.22p	7.59p	+61.0

Audited results. Exchange rate £1 = \$ NZ 2.699

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 6(b) of the Terms and Conditions of the above-captioned Notes (the "Notes") and Section 6 of the Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement dated as of November 15, 1984, between General Electric Credit Corporation and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Fiscal and Paying Agent, all of the Notes will be redeemed on November 15, 1987 (the "Redemption Date") at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof (the "Redemption Price"). From and after the Redemption Date, the Notes shall cease to accrue interest. On and after the date of the Redemption Date, the Notes shall be subject to the Redemption Price, plus interest accrued to the Redemption Date. Coupons which mature on, or shall have matured prior to, the Redemption Date should be presented and presented for payment in the usual manner. Payment of the Redemption Price will be made on or after the Redemption Date upon presentation and surrender of the Notes together with all outstanding coupons maturing subsequent to the Redemption Date. All of the paying agencies listed below (holders should note that the Redemption Date is a Sunday, and accordingly payment will not be available at such agencies until Monday, November 16, 1987).

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Luxembourg, Luxembourg

Chase Manhattan Bank (Switzerland)  
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## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Pochin's profits rise to £1.42m

Pochin's, builders and civil engineering contractor, raised its turnover from £21.74m to £26.62m in the year to end-May 1987 and for the period saw its profits rise by £580,000 to £1.42m pre-tax.

Tax took £376,000 (£230,400) leaving earnings per 25p share at 98.8p (54.15p). A final dividend of 12p lifts the total from 14p to 16p.

## London &amp; Assoc rises at midway

London & Associated Investment Trust yesterday reported pre-tax profits up from £240,000 to £277,000 for the six months to June 30 1987, but the interim dividend is unchanged at 0.15p net.

Next June the company celebrates its 50th anniversary as a publicly listed company, and the directors are expected to mark the occasion with a special Golden Jubilee scrip or bonus shares.

Turnover in the opening half was up from £498,000 to £563,000.

## Bisichi Tin

The Bisichi Tin Company, with interests in mining, property and investments, returned pre-tax profits of £73,000 for the first half of 1987, little changed on last time's £70,000. Turnover totalled £140,000 against £136,000.

Tax took £20,000 (£21,000) but an extraordinary credit of £117,000 (debit £6,000) lifted retained earnings to £170,000 (£43,000). Earnings per 10p share amounted to 0.81p (0.75p).

## Yule's Dutch buy

Yule Catto has acquired Nijls en Vale, a leading Dutch manufacturer of architectural facade systems, based in Nijmegen. The purchase consideration of £112m (£3.6m) includes the simultaneous acquisition of a related company engaged in the manufacture of sunblind systems for commercial applications.

The acquisition consolidates Yule Catto's presence in the Netherlands, following last year's acquisition of Birk Bouwproducten, the foremost Dutch manufacturer of rooflights.

## COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

The Financial Times is proposing to publish a survey on THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12 1987. For full details, contact COLIN DAVIES on 01-256 1434. FINANCIAL TIMES Europe's Business Newspaper

## Dowty's purchase takes spending to over £100m

BY TERRY DODSWORTH, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

Dowty, the diversified UK aerospace and electronics group, concluded its fifth acquisition of the year yesterday when it paid £24.3m (£40.1m) for Datatel, a US telecommunications equipment manufacturer.

The deal, which is being financed by a vendor placing, means that Dowty has spent approximately £100m this year on takeovers involving all five divisions of the company - its activities in aerospace, electronic systems, information technology, mining and industrial equipment.

Datatel, based in New Jersey, has achieved rapid growth in recent years in the fast-expanding market for multiplexers and modems, electronic devices which are fitted to telephone lines to increase traffic capacity and encode messages.

The company develops its own products, and is expected to make pre-tax profits of around £3.6m this year on sales of £20m against profits of £1.8m in 1986 on turnover of £12m.

Dowty placed the £3m new shares that are being issued, the equivalent of 43 per cent of its enlarged capital, early yesterday. The UK company has also agreed to pay an additional £5m to Datatel over the next three years if its management meets specified profit targets.

Mr Christopher Daws, executive director for tax and treasury at Dowty, said yesterday that these profits objectives for Datatel had been set at a level which would stretch its managers, more than offsetting the extra profits-related payments. To ensure continuity, the founder of Datatel, Mr Tony Barbaro, had signed a three-year contract with the group, and the rest of the management team will be staying on.

Transmission equipment of the sort manufactured by Datatel is expected to play an increasingly important role in telephone networks in the future, with demand for multiplexers in America alone currently estimated at £400m and forecast to grow to £600m by 1990.

Competition, however, is also expanding fast, as switch and cable producers expand their range of transmission products.

Mr Daws said that over the longer term there should be opportunities for Dowty to sell the Datatel products outside the North American market. But the company will continue to concentrate on its US activities for the time being, he said.

## Eleco rises by 32% and has strong order book

Eleco Holdings, electrical engineering, construction and property company, yesterday reported a 32 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £2.72m to £3.5m on turnover of £24.24m against £27.74m in the year to June 30 1987.

A final dividend of 2.5p (3.1p) makes 8.5p (4.5p) for the year. Earnings per share rose 19 per cent to 13.5p (11.1p).

The directors said they were optimistic about the current year which began with a strong order book in all divisions.

Since the acquisition of Stramit Industries in May the group had been organised into three divisions.

Construction and property development had a record year on sales of £18.8m, building products and distribution made a pre-tax profit of £2.7m on a turnover of £18.4m including a small contribution from Stramit, and in property investment the gross rental income increased by 1 per cent to £1.5m. Net interest charges for the year amounted to £0.3m.

## Barlows request share suspension at £18

BY DONNA MEEHLAND

Barlows, Manchester-based packer and warehousing company, requested a temporary suspension in the trading of its shares yesterday, pending an announcement.

The shares were trading at £18 before suspension, giving a market capitalisation of £16.8m. In May the company announced the restructuring of its finances and equity through a rights issue designed to give it a capital infusion of £2.2m. The rights making and packing business was closed with effect from last December, and funds have been directed into property investment and development.

Barlows incurred a pre-tax loss of £27,797 (£20,903) profit on turnover of £258,416 (£208,555) in the year ended December 31, 1986. At that date Barlows had net assets just short of £1m.

On the announcement of those figures, the board said it had concluded that there was considerable potential for improvement in the value of property in the north-west of England.

Mr Richard Filides, managing director, said an announcement could be expected by Monday.

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## Benlox says no cash offer

Benlox, the small engineering and investment company which has launched an audacious £25m bid for the Storehouse retail group, stressed yesterday that "at the present time" it does not feel it to be appropriate to introduce a cash alternative to its share-only offer.

However, Mincorp Karl, Benlox's financial adviser, said that this clarification of its position did not preclude it under the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers from offering a cash alternative in the future.

## Allebone back in profit with £0.4m at interim stage

BY ALICE RAWSTHORN

Allebone, the shoe retailing group which more than doubled in size when it acquired part of the Focus chain from Ward White earlier this year, yesterday announced a pre-tax profit of £236,000 in the first half of the year against a loss of £247,000 in the same period last year.

At the trading level there was a profit of £562,000 - the first since 1978. (It made a loss of £247,000 last year). Because of the seasonal nature of the business, the bulk of its profits arise in the fourth quarter of the financial year.

The integration of the Focus shops within Allebone's existing Tandem chain is now almost completed. Mr John Tilbrook, chairman, said the group was eager to expand further by acquisition. He envisaged expanding the Tandem concept into as many as 650 shops across the UK.

Until the Focus purchase in early spring, Allebone was concentrated in Scotland, Northern Ireland and the North East. By buying 163 of the Focus shops from Ward White, and a further six from Clarke which bought the rump of the chain, it has created a national network of 268 units.

Since the acquisition Allebone has streamlined the Focus head office and warehousing centre, and closed the old Tandem headquarters. All its administrative and stock operations are now centralised at the original Focus headquarters. The former Focus shops have been renamed Tandem and are being refurbished into the Tandem style.

In the six months to July 31, the original Tandem shops enjoyed healthy spring trading but were hampered in the summer by dismal weather. The Focus shops suffered from the weather and from stocking problems after the change of ownership and strategy. Nevertheless, turnover rose to £15.2m (£8.7m).

Earnings per share rose to 1p (loss of 5.5p). An interim dividend of 0.75p (0.25p) is proposed.

## comment

In the past Allebone's restructuring programmes have been far from happy. In the early 1980s the new management team pruned its retail portfolio, only to find that the overhauls were too heavy to service so few shops. The solution was to spread overheads with the acquisition of the Focus chain. This restructuring has, thus far, been a happier affair. By centralising administration Allebone has cropped £3.5m from its annual costs. Moreover the new Focus-turned-Tandem shops are sporting healthy sales growth. This increase, combined with more favourable fashions and the chilly autumn weather, has fuelled sales growth of 16 per cent in the past month. The City expects profits of £2m this year and £2m next year, when the full benefits of the acquisition come through. Allebone is now intent on spreading its overheads even further by expanding its retail interests with another acquisition.

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The numbers of Bonds selected by drawing for the mandatory redemption of 1.5 billion yen are as follows:

Denomination (Yen)	Numbers
100,000	14948-15087
1,000,000	1191-1285
10,000,000	2856-3363

The numbers of Bonds shown below are to be redeemed with price at 102.5%, at optional redemption.

Denomination (Yen)	Numbers
100,000	1-14947, 15088-15370
1,000,000	1-1190, 1287-1533
10,000,000	1-2824, 2884-3661

Paying Agents: With respect to definitive bonds, the principal of and interest on the Bonds is payable at any of the paying agents mentioned therein. With respect to recorded bonds, the payment shall be made at the paying agent designated in the application for the recording on the bonds.

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## UK COMPANY NEWS

## Tay Homes exceeds forecast with £3m

Tay Homes, Leeds-based USM-quoted house builder, lifted pre-tax profits from £1.86m to £3.02m in the 12 months to June 30, so exceeding its own forecast made in May. Turnover rose from £16.9m to £22.3m.

The directors proposed a final dividend of 4.43p (3.71p) on the enlarged capital to give a total of 8.2p. Last year Tay paid a total of 5.22p. Tax rose from £730,000 to £1,080,000 after which earnings per share rose from 20.7p to 34.8p.

Mr Trevor Spencer, chairman, said that the future of the group was well provided for by the large land bank, wider geo-

graphical spread and increased financial strength and he saw a further successful year of progress ahead.

In May, the company made a rights issue of 1.78m shares to raise £5.9m and Mr Spencer said that in anticipation of the availability of funds land acquisition activity was stepped up and there was now a land bank of about 2,000 plots.

The past year had been one of substantial progress. A new operating region was established in the south-west based in Plymouth and two sites were now under construction with other sites being negotiated. Discussions were also in hand with re-

gard to the possibility of establishing further regional outlets for development to provide for larger-term expansion.

Mr Spencer said that the wider geographical spread in Scotland and northern England was maturing and had contributed to the improved results for the year.

The current level of sales was continuing satisfactorily and there were a number of new sites being launched. During the period Tay sold 540 houses at an average price of £40,000 compared with 510 at an average price of £33,000 last time. Margins rose from 11 per cent to 13.6 per cent.

## Helene of London up 50% to £0.7m

Helene of London, the fashion-wear manufacturer which recently announced a double takeover, a board reorganisation and a £2.24m cash call, yesterday reported a near 50 per cent improvement in profits to £715,351 pre-tax for the first six months of 1987.

The second six months always provides the greater part of the year's profits. The directors said, however, that as a result of the poor spring and summer weather, the autumn season had got off to a slow start.

They also pointed out that because of the enormous effect of Christmas trading on sales and profits it was too early to make a meaningful projection for the year as a whole.

They were confident that the recent acquisitions of Target Fabrics and Arrow Textiles would make a considerable addition to Helene's earnings per share in 1988.

The newly strengthened board was pursuing the company's stated policy of growth by acquisition and a number of prospects were being examined.

Turnover for the opening six months rose from £12.39m to £13.16m. Tax took £268,000 (£185,000) and minorities £10,962 (£1,488).

Earnings per 10p share worked through at 1.3p (0.8p). The interim dividend is maintained at 0.5p on the enlarged share capital.

## Turriff rises sharply and calls for £5m

MR ASTLEY Whittall, chairman of Turriff Corporation, yesterday unveiled a sharp improvement in pre-tax profits for the first six months of 1987 and at the same time called on shareholders for £4.94m net via a one-for-three rights issue.

Turnover for the half year advanced from £24.78m to £33.72m and at the pre-tax level the construction and plant-hire group saw its profits rise to £882,000, an increase of 73 per cent over last time's £394,000.

Earnings emerged 4.4p ahead at 9.5p and as promised shareholders are to receive a maiden interim dividend of 3.3p per 25p share.

The directors expected the interim payment would represent one-third of the 1987 total - for 1986 the group paid a single dividend of 8.5p from taxable profits of £1.28m.

The cash call, fully underwritten by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, involves the issue of up to 1,601,800 new shares at 32.5p, payable in full. Brokers to the issue are de Zoete & Bevan.

As outlined in the chairman's April statement the principal thrust of the board's objectives is in two main areas: first, non-structural, including residential and commercial property development and plant and equipment hire; and secondly, the provision of manpower and the management of information through the international maintenance and information marketing services division.

The acquisitions during 1987 of Whittall (Holdings), Q.E. McIntyre and of the outstanding shareholding in Quoin Homes and the disposal of the interest in Engineering Support Services were all in line with these objectives.

The directors pointed out that in the major core business of construction Turriff will now join clients in the financing of their projects and thus enable better margins to be obtained in group business.

In the businesses of manpower provision and information management, where the group is already successful in present geographical locations, the directors are looking at ways of obtaining a foothold in the US market.

Satisfactory progress has been made in our first half year. Aerospace and industrial electronics have remained firm whilst filtration has also performed well overall. Some sectors were soft and the exceptional costs relate to redundancies in the mining and test equipment companies.

There have been a number of events subsequent to the half year. A restructuring of our insulator business has been undertaken so that resources are now more closely in balance with market demand. Davis Derby has been sold following a strategic decision not to retain major interests in the mining market. Wayne Kerr plc have acquired most of the assets of ATE Systems reflecting the need for larger international groupings in this market sector. All of these moves benefit the Company.

Derek Kingsbury  
Chairman and Chief Executive

Fairey Group Ltd.  
Registered Office: Cranford Lane Heston Middlesex TW5 9NQ

Consolidated results for the period  
1st January to 30th June 1987 (unaudited)

Turnover	£800 45,634
Operating Profit	3,136
Exceptional Costs	368
Interest Payable	1,485
Profit before Taxation	1,283
Taxation	360
Profit after Taxation	923
Preference Dividends	205
Profit retained	718

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Exceptional Costs	368
Interest Payable	1,485
Profit before Taxation	1,283
Taxation	360
Profit after Taxation	923
Preference Dividends	205
Profit retained	718

There have been a number of events subsequent to the half year. A restructuring of our insulator business has been undertaken so that resources are now more closely in balance with market demand. Davis Derby has been sold following a strategic decision not to retain major interests in the mining market. Wayne Kerr plc have acquired most of the assets of ATE Systems reflecting the need for larger international groupings in this market sector. All of these moves benefit the Company.

Derek Kingsbury  
Chairman and Chief Executive

Fairey Group Ltd.  
Registered Office: Cranford Lane Heston Middlesex TW5 9NQ

Consolidated results for the period  
1st January to 30th June 1987 (unaudited)

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## Mortgage Bank of Finland Ltd.

£15,000,000 11½ per cent. Notes 1989

## NOTICE OF PARTIAL REDEMPTION

S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. announce that Notes for the nominal amount of £5,000,000 have been drawn for the first redemption instalment due 18th November, 1987. The distinctive numbers of the Notes drawn in the presence of a Notary Public are as follows:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
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301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400
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On 18th November, 1987 there will become due and payable upon each Note drawn for redemption, the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date at the offices of:

S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.  
Paying Agency, 6th Floor, 1 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA

or Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A., 2 Boulevard Royal, P.O. Box 2205, 2953 Luxembourg.

Interest will cease to accrue on the Notes called for redemption on and after 18th November, 1987 and Notes so presented for payment should have attached all Coupons maturing after that date.

The amount of any missing unmatured Coupons will be deducted from the sum due for payment. Any amount of principal so deducted will be paid against surrender of the relative missing Coupons within five years from the due date for payment thereon. Notes will become void unless presented within 10 years of the redemption date.

£10,000,000 nominal amount of Notes will remain outstanding after 18th November, 1987.

15th October, 1987

## APPOINTMENTS

## Deputy chairman at Banro Industries

Mr John Cooper has been elected deputy chairman of BANRO INDUSTRIES, an American-owned company, on the recommendation of the board of directors. Mr Cooper, who has been a director since 1984, is a former managing director of the company. He is also a director of the company's subsidiary, Banro Finance Ltd.

Mr Michael Wallis has been appointed deputy chairman of BANRO INDUSTRIES, an American-owned company, on the recommendation of the board of directors. He is also a director of the company's subsidiary, Banro Finance Ltd.

Mr J. H. Wallis has been appointed deputy chairman of BANRO INDUSTRIES, an American-owned company, on the recommendation of the board of directors. He is also a director of the company's subsidiary, Banro Finance Ltd.

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Wherever it is, we'll find it.

**OIL.** Wherever it is, we'll find it. Oil is the primary source of energy. It is the power that moves the world and will be so for many years to come.

But, it is necessary to be prepared to wrestle this treasure from the earth's most secret strongholds, using the latest continuously evolving technology, and to venture into hostile, inaccessible places.

Agip, Italy's national oil company, took up this challenge sixty years ago, probing into the origins of the earth, experimenting with new techniques, and devoting to these activities human and economic resources that are always up to the difficulties to be overcome.

Wherever the possibilities of finding oil exist, Agip is present with its spirit of initiative and decades of experience. The results achieved, alone or in cooperation with leading oil companies, in 30 countries, on 5 continents, make Agip a reliable operator in any oil activity.

Even where no-one has ever reached.



**Agip**  
Eni Group.

**Deep thinking. Top results.**



## COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

## Brazil prepares for coffee reform

BY RIK TURNER IN SAO PAULO

BRAZIL HAS taken the first steps towards a reform of its coffee export system, following the recent reinstatement of International Coffee Organisation (ICO) quotas.

At a meeting in Brasilia last week, Brazil's National Coffee Policy Council—a consultative body formed by representatives from both the private sector and government—agreed to the authorities a system for dividing the country's coffee export quota involving past performance, stock position and auctions which the Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC) accepts in general terms with only details to be worked out, according to Mr Jorio Dauster, the IBC president.

Mr Dauster said the idea is for 65 per cent of an exporter's quota to be calculated on the basis of past performance. The period to be considered for this calculation has still to be chosen by the IBC from the total period when quotas were not in operation. Since September 30 this year, another 25 per cent of the quota will be based on the exporter's monthly stock position, and the remaining 10 per cent will be acquired in

an auction, to be held at least initially on the Sao Paulo commodities exchange. Mr Dauster explained.

The system, which has a very good chance of being adopted intact by the Government, represents a first step by the IBC towards a democratisation of the decision-making process in coffee policy, traditionally handed down to the sector by the powers that be with very little consultation.

The Council's proposals seek to reconcile the interests of bean exporters, who traditionally favour the performance criterion, with those of the growers, who naturally prefer quotas to be based on stocks.

The third element, namely the auctions, is different from previous systems such as the sale of export stamps issued by the IBC, said Mr Dauster, because the performance raised by the operation will not go to the Institute, but into the recently created Fund for the Defence of the Coffee Economy (Fudeco), to be administered by the Ministry of Trade and Industry to support the sector. Thus the IBC's purchases of coffee from the growers, which until now have been paid for by donations from the treasury, will now be financed by the

sector itself.

Again, Mr Dauster's efforts to include the private sector in decision-making are visible in Fudeco, since the Council will also participate in the administration of the funds it acquires. Fudeco takes Brazil's coffee to the Colombian market, under which the private sector actually runs the business entirely.

With regard to the recent agreements within the framework of the ICO, Mr Dauster commented that the outcome had been "positive for Brazil and all the producing countries," since it re-established international co-operation in the coffee trade, but that "it is also useful for the exporters, particularly the big roasters."

He said Brazil's acceptance of a 30,000-bag cut in its quota from 30,550 per cent to 30,450 per cent, representing of 15m bags, was a symbolic gesture by the country, which had "re-established its credentials in the world coffee market this year by exporting 15m bags in the first nine months of the year, compared with less than 10m bags in the whole of 1996."

Other countries, such as El Salvador and the group of African Countries including the Ivory Coast, Cameroon and

Madagascar did have to accept a significant drop in their quota due to a reduced market performance in recent years, Mr Dauster explained, "while Colombia is practically at the same level as under the previous arrangement."

Mr Dauster compares Brazil's favourable outcome to the expectation around the market in the months leading up to the talks that the country would have to accept a drop of between two and three per cent in its quota share because of its poor export performance in 1996. He said Brazil had "showed it would not accept such a situation and has now set a stable horizon to work with."

Although it is for two years the agreement only sets quotas for the first 12 months, with the second year's levels to be fixed in September next year, based on stock positions at that time.

Again, Mr Dauster feels this is good for Brazil, which is certain to come out of this year's bumper crop of coffee with a carryover (coffee in the hands of the IBC and the trade) of around 20m bags, he feels. "Right now the IBC has 6.5m bags from previous crops and 13.5m from the current crop," he revealed.

## Head of FAO attacks protectionism

Mr Eduardo Sauma, head of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, has strongly attacked protectionism and export subsidies as "a major obstacle to feeding the world's poor." Heater reports from Rome.

In the last 25 years an extra 1.5bn people have been fed, there had been a sustained improvement in food supplies, and a chronic shortage in much of the world had been averted, he said. But parts of Africa remained a "tragic exception."

A number of serious problems were unresolved despite an awareness by the international community that feeding the hungry was a common responsibility, Mr Sauma said.

"Trade in agricultural commodities remains in a state of profound crisis. Agriculture has been deeply affected by protectionist measures and export subsidies on a scale not seen for over half a century," he said.

He added that agricultural resources and investment would still not adequately protect from degradation and pollution.

## Oversupply of copper forecast

BY DAVID BLACKWELL

THE COPPER market is set to return to a period of oversupply next year as production rises ahead, according to Shearson Lehman Brothers' Annual Review of the World Copper Industry 1997.

The report predicts an increase in global production of 1.5m tonnes next year and of 550,000 tonnes in 1999, compared with a decline in stocks this year of 90,000 tonnes and of 344,000 tonnes in 1998.

Stocks have been falling for the last four years, and according to the World Bureau of Metal Statistics non-socialist world stocks stood at 666,000 tonnes in the first nine months of this year, or 41 weeks' supply at current consumption levels. This compares with stocks of 1.7m tonnes at the end of 1993.

The outlook for prices next year is "rather gloomy," at first sight, says the report. But although the downturn in stocks may now be bottoming out, consumer inventories will be "exceptionally low by historical standards" for some time, Shearson is predicting.

The Metal Marketing Corporation of Zambia is to keep its premiums for copper delivered under next year's annual contracts unchanged at \$1.50 a lb, according to Mr R. Williams, its chairman.

But Mr Williams, in London for London Metal Exchange Week said extra flexibility on the pricing period would be given to the buyers.

The premiums, which are based on LME grade A settlement prices, will remain at \$15 a tonne for average pricing, \$15 for unknown pricing and \$20 for known pricing. Average pricing means that prices are based on the month's LME average. Unknown pricing allows the buyer to declare before the LME rings that he will price at a certain average based on the day's settlement, while known pricing allows the buyer to price on the previous day's settlement.

about 200,000 tonnes per year to Australian output by 1999, says the report. Chile is set to start reaping the benefits next year from Codelco's Chuquibambilla mine, which could boost the country's output to 1.5m tonnes in 1999.

Shearson believes last year's 8 per cent rise in consumption by the non-socialist world to 1.7m tonnes is not sustainable. Consumption this year is put at 1.77m tonnes, and in 1999 is predicted to ease to 1.7m tonnes.

## The Ivory Coast's deepening cocoa crisis

IN THE quiet up-country villages of the Ivory Coast the arrival of anything more exciting than a tractor is rare. So the appearance of a horde of colourfully-dressed cyclists announcing the coming of "the greatest show on earth" is guaranteed to cause quite a stir.

The mobile film units that follow a few hours later may not rival Barrow and Bailey for spectacle but they probably give the audience more thrills, intrigue and romance than they have experienced all year, picking cocoa in the surrounding plantations.

Woven none-too-subtly into the action-packed plots of these films, however, is a serious message extolling the virtues of diligence and hard work in improving cocoa and coffee harvests.

After suffering many trials their heroes always set such cocoa and live in great happiness for ever after—an outcome which cannot, at the moment, be confidently predicted for the Ivory Coast's cocoa industry.

Like many third world nations this tropical West African country—the largest cocoa producer in the world—sees the dramatic slump in world commodity prices as the cause of its current economic crisis, and many Ivorians have, understandably, drawn the conclusion that the cards are unfairly stacked against them—the harder they have worked in recent years, the less they have been paid.

The country's present inability to pay its \$8.4bn external debt has also come as a shock to the many outsiders who regarded the country as a model of economic development.

Ivorian government policy must take its share of the blame. As one seasoned market-watcher observed, "world prices have simply not been low

enough long enough to have put the Ivory Coast in its present situation."

Clearly mistakes in the recent past have contributed to the crisis.

Selling cocoa and coffee for dollars without hedging against the decline in the US currency's value to the Ivorian franc in 1986, but the main problems have been caused by long-standing policies of the state marketing board, the "Caisse de Stabilisation," which the financial power-house of the Ivorian miracle since the 1960s, traditionally buys cocoa and coffee at guaranteed prices. When markets were rising the practice of this encouraging growth was highly profitable. But today, in what has virtually become an agricultural subsidies programme, the Caisse buys principle commodities for more than it is able to sell them on the open market.

As a result a vicious circle of economic insolvency has been established, with almost all major financial institutions in the country being affected.

The dominoes fall in this order:

- (1) Without the necessary profits, the Caisse is unable to inject funds back into the national economy through the country's Central Bank.
- (2) The Central Bank in its turn cannot command the funds needed to provide commercial banks with guarantees or liquidity.
- (3) Commercial banks then have difficulty lending on to the

exporting firms that, as agents for Caisse, take charge of up-country buying operations. Caisse undertakes to reimburse these agents when the commodities are delivered to the coast for shipment.

4—The exporting firms then advance the funds for them to "raiders" usually independent Lebanese and Indian businessmen, who are responsible for the purchase of commodities at the farm gate and their transportation to primary collecting points. In theory they are reimbursed for their handling costs by Caisse.

With current deficit problems, however, there is a large gap between theory and practice. Caisse currently owes some \$4m to exporters who, in turn, owe the commercial banks a similar sum. The traders also find themselves in a financial squeeze because Caisse, in an effort to cut costs, is currently threatening to reduce the already inadequate reimbursements for handling costs.

In the opinion of some observers the system is gradually heading towards a breakdown. On the one hand credit for Caisse operations is becoming more difficult to obtain on the other the Government, for political reasons, refuses to abandon its fixed price policy. Adjustments are obviously necessary for the system's survival and past experience, these same observers claim, shows that it is the farmer who ultimately pays the price.

The Ghanaian Government's failure to honour its purchase price commitments contributed greatly to that country's decline as a cocoa producer. Until the late 1960s Ghana was the world's number one producer. But its production slumped from over 500,000 tonnes to 150,000 tonnes in 1993. Similar irregularities helped to ruin Nigeria's cocoa industry.

There are signs that the Ivorian Government is beginning to take hold in the Ivory Coast," commented one market analyst in Abidjan. Some experts say that the traders, unable to make a profit under present reimbursement schedules, are finding ways to get more cocoa from farmers than they have to pay for. Consistent and large-scale cheating of farmers is a growing practice, the experts contend.

The immediate hurt to the grover is obvious, but in the long term the entire economy is at risk. Farmers in the Ivory Coast find themselves unable to cover their costs over a number of seasons, as farmers in Ghana did, they will simply change to other crops, such as rubber. While switching to make might seem logical to individual farmers, for a nation dependent on export earnings it would mean disaster.

Other observers strike a more serious note. While admitting that, in the face of the present glut, reducing cocoa production might do little immediate harm, they warn that fundamental changes in that direction could do great human and political costs in the future.

## Malaysia set to climb production ladder

BY WONG SULONG IN KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIA IS expected to overtake Cameroon, Nigeria and Ghana to emerge as the world's third biggest cocoa exporter by 1999, Dr Lim Keng Yik, the Minister of Primary Industries said yesterday after a visit to Sabah, the biggest cocoa producing state in the country.

His optimism is reinforced by a US embassy agricultural report which said Malaysia had just had a bumper harvest of an estimated 165,000 tonnes for the 1996-97 season—up by 35,000 tonnes—thanks to record yields from the big acreage built up since the late 1970s.

The report added the continued maturing of another 19,000 hectares could add another 20,000 tonnes of cocoa for the 1997-98 season.

It said with the surge in production, Malaysia was coming under increasing pressure to join the International Cocoa Organisation. But the country was not prepared to do so yet, as it feared it might be subject to production and export quotas.

Almost all of Malaysia's cocoa is exported in the form of beans, with the Netherlands and Singapore the biggest pur-

chasers. China has also emerged as an important market.

The US embassy report said there has been a slowdown in the planted acreage for cocoa during the past two years, because of the economic recession and insistent financial pressure to expand the rubber plantation. Expansion in Sabah is forecast at around 9,000 hectares for 1998, compared with the rate of 30,000 to 45,000 hectares in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Neighbouring Sarawak, however, is enjoying strong expansion as pepper farmers switch to cocoa and West Malaysian

plantation companies acquire new land in the state.

The report added that in view of the growing importance of the cocoa industry to the economy, the Malaysian Government feels there is a need to start a cocoa futures contract on the Kuala Lumpur Commodity Exchange.

Dr Lim announced legislation would be introduced early next year to set up a Malaysian cocoa board, with its headquarters in Sabah, to look after the licensing, marketing, registration as well as research and development.

## LONDON MARKETS

COPPER RESUMED its upward trend on the London Exchange yesterday, although dealers describe trading as "chilly." They said the rise, which lifted the cash grade A position by \$11 to \$1,212 a tonne, largely reflected "barring" (buying cash and selling forward) and this was reflected in a bigger premium over the three months position, which gained only \$5 to \$1,169.75 a tonne. An early rise ran into profit-taking and a sharp rally in sterling also weighed on the market. Profit-taking also took its toll in the aluminium market, where the cash standard grade position's early rise to a fresh record level was wiped out. The price ended the day \$1 down at \$1,235.50 a tonne. The initial advance was encouraged by further Japanese buying and covering against earlier short sales, traders said. At that time LME supply tightness was continuing to provide support for the market. The trading pattern on the nickel market was the reverse of that in aluminium, with early profit-taking giving way to a subsequent wave of buying which took the cash position to \$3,447.50 a tonne at the close, up \$42 on the day. Dealers said the market was "well supported" by chart factors, however, and therefore strong resistance could become apparent just above current levels.

LME prices supplied by Associated Metal Trading.

## ALUMINIUM

90.72 Unofficial + or - High/Low  
per lb (p.m.)  
5 per tonne

Month	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
Oct	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
Nov	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
Dec	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
Jan	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
Feb	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
Mar	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
Apr	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
May	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00
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Sep	1,210.00	1,215.00	1,220.00







## WORLD MARKETS

## FT-ACTUARIES WORLD INDICES

Jointly compiled by the Financial Times, Goldman, Sachs & Co., and Wood Mackenzie & Co. Ltd., in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MARKETS	WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14 1987				TUESDAY OCTOBER 13 1987				DOLLAR INDEX	
	US Dollar Index	Day's Change %	Pound Sterling Index	Local Currency Index	US Dollar Index	Day's Change %	Pound Sterling Index	Local Currency Index	1987 High	1987 Low
Figures in parentheses show number of stocks per grouping										
Australia (97)	166.95	+1.0	149.69	153.68	165.37	+1.0	148.86	152.12	160.81	99.92
Austria (16)	101.45	+0.7	90.96	95.49	100.71	+0.5	90.65	95.31	102.87	85.53
Belgium (48)	123.90	+1.5	111.09	115.65	122.04	+1.0	109.86	114.52	134.89	96.19
Canada (129)	123.51	+1.2	117.02	123.42	123.09	+1.0	118.90	124.92	141.78	100.00
Denmark (38)	121.32	+0.8	108.79	114.56	120.34	+0.8	108.33	114.52	134.89	96.19
France (122)	103.34	+1.0	92.64	97.83	104.33	+0.9	94.29	99.26	122.82	96.39
West Germany (93)	100.52	+0.9	90.13	94.69	99.60	+0.8	89.65	94.29	104.95	94.00
Hong Kong (46)	152.83	+0.4	137.03	153.18	153.37	+0.3	136.06	153.71	158.68	99.97
Ireland (14)	109.65	+0.7	143.15	153.44	108.49	+0.6	142.66	151.55	160.22	99.50
Italy (95)	95.45	+0.0	85.58	88.58	95.46	+0.0	85.58	88.58	112.11	84.22
Japan (458)	136.92	+1.8	136.92	137.70	137.70	+1.8	136.92	137.70	136.92	100.00
Malaysia (36)	177.20	+0.4	158.08	172.83	177.20	+0.4	158.08	172.83	177.20	99.75
Mexico (14)	285.01	+4.8	245.21	276.25	285.01	+4.8	245.21	276.25	285.01	99.72
Netherlands (37)	120.54	+1.0	108.08	112.13	120.54	+1.0	108.08	112.13	120.54	99.65
New Zealand (23)	129.15	+1.7	115.80	127.33	129.15	+1.7	115.80	127.33	129.15	99.65
Norway (24)	181.10	+1.0	162.47	162.47	181.10	+1.0	162.47	162.47	181.10	100.00
Singapore (27)	170.04	+0.1	152.46	164.12	170.04	+0.1	152.46	164.12	170.04	99.29
South Africa (63)	147.04	+0.1	147.04	147.04	147.04	+0.1	147.04	147.04	147.04	99.29
Spain (43)	143.40	+0.9	128.58	133.56	143.40	+0.9	128.58	133.56	143.40	99.29
Sweden (34)	135.45	+1.2	121.45	127.53	135.45	+1.2	121.45	127.53	135.45	99.29
Switzerland (53)	111.00	+0.8	99.52	103.36	111.00	+0.8	99.52	103.36	111.00	99.29
United Kingdom (335)	158.73	+0.6	141.32	145.55	158.73	+0.6	141.32	145.55	158.73	99.29
USA (584)	124.88	+0.2	114.97	118.16	124.88	+0.2	114.97	118.16	124.88	99.29
Europe (952)	128.22	+0.2	114.97	118.16	128.22	+0.2	114.97	118.16	128.22	99.29
Pacific Basin (681)	153.13	+1.6	137.30	138.56	153.13	+1.6	137.30	138.56	153.13	99.29
East-Pacific (1633)	143.22	+1.0	128.42	130.42	143.22	+1.0	128.42	130.42	143.22	99.29
North America (713)	125.18	+2.7	112.24	116.42	125.18	+2.7	112.24	116.42	125.18	99.29
Europe Ex. UK (617)	109.26	+0.1	97.97	103.03	109.26	+0.1	97.97	103.03	109.26	99.29
Pacific Ex. Japan (223)	158.54	+0.2	142.16	149.36	158.54	+0.2	142.16	149.36	158.54	99.29
World Ex. US (1837)	143.40	+0.9	128.58	133.56	143.40	+0.9	128.58	133.56	143.40	99.29
World Ex. UK (2086)	134.01	+0.5	120.15	127.53	134.01	+0.5	120.15	127.53	134.01	99.29
World Ex. Japan (2360)	135.87	+0.5	121.89	128.60	135.87	+0.5	121.89	128.60	135.87	99.29
World Ex. Japan (2363)	128.31	+1.7	115.05	124.15	128.31	+1.7	115.05	124.15	128.31	99.29
The World Index (2421)	136.20	+0.5	122.12	128.70	136.20	+0.5	122.12	128.70	136.20	99.29

Source: Reuters, Dec. 31, 1986 = 100  
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## EUROPEAN OPTIONS EXCHANGE

Series	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11	Vol	Oct 12	Vol	Oct 13	Vol	Oct 14	Vol	Oct 15	Vol	Oct 16	Vol	Oct 17	Vol	Oct 18	Vol	Oct 19	Vol	Oct 20	Vol	Oct 21	Vol	Oct 22	Vol	Oct 23	Vol	Oct 24	Vol	Oct 25	Vol	Oct 26	Vol	Oct 27	Vol	Oct 28	Vol	Oct 29	Vol	Oct 30	Vol	Oct 31	Vol	Oct 32	Vol	Oct 33	Vol	Oct 34	Vol	Oct 35	Vol	Oct 36	Vol	Oct 37	Vol	Oct 38	Vol	Oct 39	Vol	Oct 40	Vol	Oct 41	Vol	Oct 42	Vol	Oct 43	Vol	Oct 44	Vol	Oct 45	Vol	Oct 46	Vol	Oct 47	Vol	Oct 48	Vol	Oct 49	Vol	Oct 50	Vol	Oct 51	Vol	Oct 52	Vol	Oct 53	Vol	Oct 54	Vol	Oct 55	Vol	Oct 56	Vol	Oct 57	Vol	Oct 58	Vol	Oct 59	Vol	Oct 60	Vol	Oct 61	Vol	Oct 62	Vol	Oct 63	Vol	Oct 64	Vol	Oct 65	Vol	Oct 66	Vol	Oct 67	Vol	Oct 68	Vol	Oct 69	Vol	Oct 70	Vol	Oct 71	Vol	Oct 72	Vol	Oct 73	Vol	Oct 74	Vol	Oct 75	Vol	Oct 76	Vol	Oct 77	Vol	Oct 78	Vol	Oct 79	Vol	Oct 80	Vol	Oct 81	Vol	Oct 82	Vol	Oct 83	Vol	Oct 84	Vol	Oct 85	Vol	Oct 86	Vol	Oct 87	Vol	Oct 88	Vol	Oct 89	Vol	Oct 90	Vol	Oct 91	Vol	Oct 92	Vol	Oct 93	Vol	Oct 94	Vol	Oct 95	Vol	Oct 96	Vol	Oct 97	Vol	Oct 98	Vol	Oct 99	Vol	Oct 00	Vol	Oct 01	Vol	Oct 02	Vol	Oct 03	Vol	Oct 04	Vol	Oct 05	Vol	Oct 06	Vol	Oct 07	Vol	Oct 08	Vol	Oct 09	Vol	Oct 10	Vol	Oct 11
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**FT UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE**[illegible]







## LONDON SHARE SERVICE

## BUILDING, TIMBER.

**DRAPERY AND STORES—Cont.**

## ENGINEERING—Continued

## INDUSTRIALS—Continued

## INDUSTRIALS—Continued

Ship	1967	Stock	Price	50	75	100
				Red	Red	Red
200	127	Madison Thompson	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	128	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	132	Los Brown Bay	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	133	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	134	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	135	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	136	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	137	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	138	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	139	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	140	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	141	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	142	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	143	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	144	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	145	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	146	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	147	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	148	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	149	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	150	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	151	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	152	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	153	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	154	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	155	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	156	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	157	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	158	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	159	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	160	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	161	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	162	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	163	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	164	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	165	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	166	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	167	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	168	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	169	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	170	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	171	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	172	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	173	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	174	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	175	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	176	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	177	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	178	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	179	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	180	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	181	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	182	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	183	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	184	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	185	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	186	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	187	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	188	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	189	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	190	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200	191	London	1.10	2.75	2.25	2.25
200						

Marshall's Halfpax	368	6.25
Blunders (John) 20p	339	5.7
Money Int	455	7.0

## ELECTRICALS

[illegible]

**BANKS, HP & LEASING**

120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785																																																																																																																																																																																																																							

Investment 50%	500	+5	6.2	4.2	2.9
Investment 20%	550	+5	6.2	4.2	2.9

**Hire Purchase, Leasing, etc.**

[illegible]

4	Young Brew 'A' 50p	462	.....	2.5	1.9	2.5
5	Da. No. V 50p	448	.....	8.9	1.9	2.6

[illegible]



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**MINES—Continued**

Stock	Price	+ -
Aluminae blank	46	
Asia Mines 10c	155	
Calbaria Mtn 20c	16	
Okla Ora Gold 51	63	
Okla Chen M 25c	45	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	240	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	68	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	88	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	598	-5
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	83	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	145	+2
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	7	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	29	
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	160	+4
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	78	-1
Alvoro Pacific AS20.20	21	-1

Walter Exp'n. N.I.	37	+2
W.Pan Ast Mining 25c	268	
W.Pascant' 25c	158	
W.Parran Resources N.I.	78	
W.Parraga Mng' Exp 35c	293	
W.Patterson 50c	403	+6
W.Pickart Res N.I.	88	-3
W.Pittman Mining	20	
W.Planet Margaret Gold	94	-1
W.Planet Mining 20c	57	
W.Rendon 50c	656	-2
W.Savona Exp'n. N.I.	22	
W.Sandhart Mining	17	-1
W.Sons Goldfield N.I.	513	
W.Sons Goldfield	15	
W.Southern Resources	36	
W.Southern Res.	128	+5
W.Southern Ventures 25c	17	
W.Spargas Exp'n	31	
W.Swan Res 20c	17	+1
W.Thames Mining 25c	41	-1
W.Utah Goldfields N.I.	135	
W.Vermont 25c	1	

Wheat. Mining 50c	360	-1
W. Minn. Creek 20c	228	
W. Windsor Res. NI	70	
<b>Times</b>		
Buyer Hitam SM1	114	-3
Gevo	128	
Green Borth M50.50	68	
Malay 12c	135	-5
Malaysia Mng. 10c	85	
Petaling SM1	145	
Sungei Best SM1	130	
Tampoi 15c	150	
Trench SM1	208	-3
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Anglo-Canadian	75	-1
Woolley Res Corp	53	-2
Cons. Murch. 10c	313	
W. Mex. Int. 170c	64	-4
Greenwich Res	470	
Pemco Gold Mines	203	-1

Stock	Price	+ or -	% Mo
Alphabet Group 10p	415 1/2	+	3.1
Amazon.com 10p	48	+	1.1
Alkermes Inc. Brokers	140 1/2	+	N/A
American Express 10p	64	-	1
Amazon.com 10p	48	+	1.1
Ardmore Pet. A	38	+	1
Brookfield Comm.	267	+	1
Carnegie 10p	181	+	1
Carnotech 10p	173	-	1

Loggia Artists	185	
ChemEx Intl.	94	
Comac Group Sp.	159	
Corban Beach 10c	126	0.4
Crown Eyeglass Sp.	328	
Exxon Int'l.	18	
Gas. Warrants	18	
Gen East Res. 10c	126	
Gardner (J.J.) Sp.	187	0.2
Hemlock Group Sp.	49	
Leading Leisure Sp.	123	0.9
Lycos Tech. Sp.	87	
Melrose 10c	177	
Proton Gold HRL02	95	
Pushing Wides Sp.	68	
Thames 10c	126	1.0
UPL Group 10c	287	1.2
Ustlen Group	132	0.4

[illegible][illegible]

y relates to previous dividend, P/E ratio,  $\Delta$  P/E,  $\Delta$  Forecast, or  $\Delta$  expected annualized earnings.  
 z relates to previous year's earnings,  $\Delta$  Subjective ratings,  $\Delta$  100 day moving average,  $\Delta$  dividend yield,  $\Delta$  dividend yield minus yield on 30 year Treasury,  $\Delta$  yield income spread,  $\Delta$  dividend yield, or special payment.  
 A Net dividend is a dividend payment net of a dividend passed or deferred.  
 C Canadian.  
 D Dividend and yield based on prospectus.  
 E 1986-87. G Assumed dividend and yield.  
 H Ignits Issue.  
 I Dividend and yield based on estimated earnings.  
 K Dividends based on actuals.  
 L Dividend and yield based on actuals.  
 M Dividend, cover and p/e based on basis.  
 N Dividend and yield based on prospectus or other official source.  
 O Dividend and yield based on prospectus.  
 P 1987. P Figures based on prospectus.  
 Q 1987. R Forecast annualized dividend and prospectus based earnings.  
 S Return to 2 Grand Total date.  
 T ex dividend; ex ex script issue; or ex distribution.

98	Fin. 13% 97/02
763	Arnotts
117	CPI Hedges
511	Carroll Inds.
325	Deblin Gas
	Hall Oil & H.J.
	Holston Widge.
	Irish Ropes
5100	Norfolk
578	Unikore

19	Nat West Bk
62	P & O Dtd
50	Plessey
17	Polly Pack
36	Reed Elect
32	RHM
52	Rank Org Ord
50	Reed Intl
50	STC
30	TI
50	TSS
28	Tesco
32	Thorn EMI
25	Trust Houses
45	T&N
34	Unilever
45	Vickers
32	Wellcome
95	Property
22	Brit Land

250	Land Securities
50	MEPC
125	Peacopy
38	Oils
17	Brit. Petroleum
18	Britoil
225	Burntash Oil
52	Charterhall
45	Premier
32	Shell
45	Tricentrol
35	Ukrasur
75	Mines
22	Coss Gold
45	Lafite
55	Rio T. Zinc

tion of Options traded is given in London Stock Exchange Report Page







## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

AUSTRIA				GERMANY				SPAIN				AUSTRALIA (Continued)				JAPAN (Continued)			
Oct 14	Price	High	Low	Oct 14	Price	High	Low	Oct 14	Price	High	Low	Oct 14	Price	High	Low	Oct 14	Price	High	Low
Alpine	12.50	12.50	12.50	Alpine	12.50	12.50	12.50	Alpine	12.50	12.50	12.50	Alpine	12.50	12.50	12.50	Alpine	12.50	12.50	12.50
Bank Austria	12.50	12.50	12.50	Bank Austria	12.50	12.50	12.50	Bank Austria	12.50	12.50	12.50	Bank Austria	12.50	12.50	12.50	Bank Austria	12.50	12.50	12.50
Commerzbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Commerzbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Commerzbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Commerzbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Commerzbank	12.50	12.50	12.50
Deutsche Bank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Deutsche Bank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Deutsche Bank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Deutsche Bank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Deutsche Bank	12.50	12.50	12.50
Industriewerk	12.50	12.50	12.50	Industriewerk	12.50	12.50	12.50	Industriewerk	12.50	12.50	12.50	Industriewerk	12.50	12.50	12.50	Industriewerk	12.50	12.50	12.50
Landesbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Landesbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Landesbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Landesbank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Landesbank	12.50	12.50	12.50
Salzburger	12.50	12.50	12.50	Salzburger	12.50	12.50	12.50	Salzburger	12.50	12.50	12.50	Salzburger	12.50	12.50	12.50	Salzburger	12.50	12.50	12.50
Steiermark	12.50	12.50	12.50	Steiermark	12.50	12.50	12.50	Steiermark	12.50	12.50	12.50	Steiermark	12.50	12.50	12.50	Steiermark	12.50	12.50	12.50
Wiener	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wiener	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wiener	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wiener	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wiener	12.50	12.50	12.50
Wolfsberg	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wolfsberg	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wolfsberg	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wolfsberg	12.50	12.50	12.50	Wolfsberg	12.50	12.50	12.50
Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50
Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50

## CANADA

TORONTO				MONTREAL			
Oct 14	Price	High	Low	Oct 14	Price	High	Low
Alcan	12.50	12.50	12.50	Alcan	12.50	12.50	12.50
Bank of Montreal	12.50	12.50	12.50	Bank of Montreal	12.50	12.50	12.50
Canadian Pacific	12.50	12.50	12.50	Canadian Pacific	12.50	12.50	12.50
Imperial Oil	12.50	12.50	12.50	Imperial Oil	12.50	12.50	12.50
Inco	12.50	12.50	12.50	Inco	12.50	12.50	12.50
Noranda	12.50	12.50	12.50	Noranda	12.50	12.50	12.50
Papier	12.50	12.50	12.50	Papier	12.50	12.50	12.50
Placer Dome	12.50	12.50	12.50	Placer Dome	12.50	12.50	12.50
Power Corp	12.50	12.50	12.50	Power Corp	12.50	12.50	12.50
Scotiabank	12.50	12.50	12.50	Scotiabank	12.50	12.50	12.50
St. Lawrence	12.50	12.50	12.50	St. Lawrence	12.50	12.50	12.50
Telus	12.50	12.50	12.50	Telus	12.50	12.50	12.50
Windsor	12.50	12.50	12.50	Windsor	12.50	12.50	12.50
Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50
Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50	Yusuf	12.50	12.50	12.50

## Indices

NEW YORK—LOW INDEX									
	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 8	Oct 7	1986/87		Stats Completion	
						High	Low	High	Low
Industrials	2,412.78	2,588.18	2,471.44	2,482.21	2,518.98	2,561.10	2,222.42	2,627.53	2,722.42 (2/1/93)
Transport	1,817.59	1,932.48	1,838.63	1,838.16	1,888.48	1,944.82	1,811.18	2,018.38	2,181.18 (8/1/93)
Utilities	188.48	200.57	185.41	188.88	187.81	188.21	227.83	191.39	227.83 (8/1/93)
Trading vol	772,388,441	1,453,156	156,258	188,878	707,146	-	-	-	- (8/1/93)
			Oct 10	Oct 2	Sept 25	Year Ago (Approx)			
Ind. Div. Yield %			2.78	2.81	2.88	3.82			
STANDARD AND POORS									
	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 8	Oct 7	1987		Stats Completion	
						High	Low	High	Low
Industrials	282.71	294.58	288.21	291.38	288.48	322.77	257.58	383.17	3.82 (2/1/93)
Composites	285.23	294.82	288.38	291.87	294.18	328.54	258.65	328.77	6.48 (1/8/93)
			Oct 7	Sept 28	Sept 22	Year Ago (Approx)			
Ind. div. yield %			2.78	2.81	2.82	3.88			
Ind. P/E Ratio			22.18	23.28	22.17	18.88			
Long Term Bond Yield			8.81	8.18	8.78	8.88			
N.Y.S.E. ALL COMMON									
BISES AND FAIR									
	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 8	1987				
					High	Low	High	Low	
Industrials	171.38	176.82	173.82	174.84	187.88	141.81	197.88	158.81	1,881 (2/1/93)
Composites					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988	1,988	1,988 (2/1/93)
					1,978	1,948	1,988		



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**Continued on Page 41**



## AMEX COMPOSITE CLOSING PRICES

Stock	Div	P/E	100k	High	Low	Close	Change	Stock	Div	P/E	100k	High	Low	Close	Change	Stock	Div	P/E	100k	High	Low	Close	Change	Stock	Div	P/E	100k	High	Low	Close	Change
AT&T	101	18	174	174	-	-		DOW	10	21	67	85	64			Imperial	58	58	58	58	-	-		Procter	10	132	75	72	71	-	
Amoco	17	18	181	181	-	-		DuPont	4233	5	16	104	-	-		Insight	11	31	31	31	12	12		Pr&Me	13	312	12	12	12		
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Eastman	10	30	110	110	104	-		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Alza	183	60	35	35	35	35		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							
Amgen	380	67	42	42	-	-		Exxon	11	31	11	11	11	11		Intelligence	8	29	29	29	2	2		R							

Dist.	Subs.	High	Low	Int.	Dist.	Subs.	High	Low	Int.	Dist.	Subs.	High	Low	Int.	Dist.	Subs.	High	Low	Int.	Dist.	Subs.	High	Low	Int.	Dist.	Subs.	High	Low	Int.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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**Continued on Page 39**

**Lisboa 887844** And ask Roberto Alves for details.

\_\_\_\_\_



## WORLD STOCK MARKETS



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